WHIST SKETCHES

FIRST AMERICAN WHIST CONGRESS

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OUR WHITE FRIENDS

WHIST SKETCHES.

REVIEW AND SKETCHES

—OF THE—

First American Whist Congress,

HELD IN MILWAUKEE, APRIL, 1891.

Personal of distinguished players.

Biographies of "Cavendish" and Trist.

Reminiscences of James Clay, etc., etc.

BY C. S. B. Butcher

JAN 20 1892
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TO

EUGENE S. ELLIOTT,

AND HIS

Fellow Members of the Milwaukee Whist Club,

To whom the Origin of

THE FIRST AMERICAN WHIST CONGRESS,

And the Formation of

THE AMERICAN WHIST LEAGUE,

Are Due,

This Book

IS FRATERNALLY DEDICATED.

Easton, Pa., 1891. *C. S. B.*

INTRODUCTION.

WHIST SKETCHES in book form are in recognition of requests for Free Presses in which they first appeared that far outran the supply.

No claim is made for them.

They are but the chroniclings of the fiends at their virgin Congress, with some running commentary.

The new matter prepared for Part Second, of the Clubs in attendance upon the Congress, the personal of their members, the sketch of Mr. Trist, about whom too little has been known, that of Mr. Henry Jones, "Cavendish," with the reminiscences of that keystone in the solid arch of the game, the late James Clay, may have more than a passing interest for the whist world.

The writer thanks the friends who kindly sent him data of their Clubs, Mr. C. D. P. Hamilton for his efficient aid, "Cavendish" for his good will to American whist players, shown by his voluntary contribution of the paper on "Whist Contrasts," and Mr. Jones and Mr. Trist for their portraits, which, through their faithful reproduction in the "Sketches," enables the fraternity of whist fiends to see these cranks of high degree just as they are.

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PART FIRST.

I.

Introductory—The Need of a Congress—The Whist Practice of American Clubs—The Enterprise of the Milwaukee Club—Eugene S. Elliott.

THE desire has long existed, coupled with more or less desultory endeavor, to bring about a better acquaintance between the whist organizations of the United States, with such interchange of opinions, as would result in uniting the scattered whist forces into a brotherhood, and of harmonizing the discrepant systems of play, and of laws, into a system upon which the representative whist authorities should agree as the best system and the best code of laws to reach this most desirable end of uniformity.

The whist practice of the American clubs has been at sea, so far as uniformity is concerned, differing as widely in system as in rules for play and penalties. In count, honors have become practically obsolete, but five points, seven points, continuous count, trebles, doubles and singles, turning the trump from the live pack or cutting it from the dead pack, or announcing one suit for trump during a sitting, have all had their respectable following. The difference in system of play has been as pronounced. Among players of rank, those who follow the English custom of playing for a stake, prefer the English five point game, with or without honors, and play the hands out or not as the case may be. Another body of players of rank place most stress upon utilizing all of the

resources of the hands. Hence they prefer that seven points shall constitute the game, and that the continuous record of the points shall be scored. Those who play for a consideration, care not how quickly a game is through; the other class care not how prolonged it is, so that the hands are played out, and properly. It is evident upon the face, which class of players cares most for the royal game for its own sake. Though whist is not a gambling game (or rather, there are a few American games that far out-trump it for that purpose) and though the stakes put on it be insignificant, the practice unquestionably detracts from the quality of play.

This rank of players generally follows some conventional line of play—either Cavendish's earlier system, or his later adoptions, or the American practice of Trist, Pettes, Ames or others of their type. The foundation, or mapping out the play of their hands is based upon conventional system.

The other class of players, or the rank and file, play all sorts of whist—old style, new style and mixed styles. They have little respect for conventions, and generally adapt their play to their own hands. Their game is a miscellaneous scramble for tricks with master cards, and their ideal, a ruff. After the smoke of battle of the aces and kings has cleared, their minor cards are either helpless, or but factors of chance. Doubtless this affords them amusement, and they fancy they are playing whist.

The consolidation of whist forces into a union, and the adoption of a uniform system and code of laws, will unquestionably exert a powerful influence for a higher

order of play than now exists, not only in the clubs, but with the miscellaneous multitude, who cannot escape the leaven that flows from organized sources.

To the enterprise of the West—and especially to the City of Milwaukee—the whist world of America is indebted for the accomplishment of this union, which marks a most important stage in the history of whist.

The Milwaukee Whist Club was organized in 1875, and has seventy-three active members. As a body they number more strong players than any whist club in the West. Their contests of record with the clubs of twelve Western cities cover a period of ten years, in which series they have lost but two sittings, their total winning score being 2,840 points and their losing score but 52 points. They earned their right to be classed as the leading whist club of the West, not upon any theoretical base, but by battle and victory.

The idea of a National Whist Congress brewed with these broad-minded Milwaukeeans for a year (their other great brew being Pabt's.)

The club was indefatigable in its purpose of bringing the subject before the clubs of the country, and interesting them in it. Enough encouragement was met with for them to announce that the "First American Whist Congress" would assemble in Milwaukee April 14–17, 1891.

To Eugene S. Elliott, the head of a leading law firm of the city, more than to any other one man its accomplishment was due. He was unremitting in his personal efforts, and in his correspondence with clubs, to stimulate

interest in the Congress. He would not accept denial, or doubt, but labored to remove all obstacles that arose. These were generally in the line of indifference or skepticism, and how effectually he eliminated these elements was shown by the representation at the Congress.

His generous club asked nothing but the presence of their whist brethren. They were their guests, and right royally they entertained them. They spared neither endeavor nor expense, they dropped all other business, so they could devote their entire time to making the delegates visit interesting. For their Congress they secured one of the handsomest buildings in the city, the Ladies' Athenæum, whether for money or love we cannot say, but we should say for love, if the beauty and worth of their ladies count; but may be these sagacious women hold that to be too insubstantial a return for their beautiful quarters. Their Athenæum is one of the features of the city. It is owned exclusively by a guild of ladies, and is managed by them. It is not strictly a club house, but it is comfortably and luxuriously appointed throughout, from its kitchen to its parlors, reception rooms and library, and to its auditoriums, of which there are two. It is always open to members, but its main line of use to them is for holding meetings of ladies' societies, and as a place for balls or receptions by individual members, instead of at their homes.

It is our purpose to write a general sketch and review of the First American Whist Congress, and this, in a cursory way, is introductory to it.

II.

The Easton Whist Cranks' trip—The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad—The B. & O. Snapper (Limited)—Chicago and the American Field—The Great Chicago and North Western—Some Wild West Whist on the C. & N. W. R. R.—Milwaukee and the Schlitz Hotel—What Milwaukee herbs are.

Two long-built Easton cranks with whist on the brain got a spell of Milwaukee congress fever, and from the impulse of it, took the old reliable North Penn. on the 11th of April, stopped over in Philadelphia for the night, doctored the fever with an interesting rubber at the handsome quarters of the Hamilton Whist Club, and on Sunday morning took the famous B. & O. Blue Line limited flyer for the fever's source. Blue Line is a misnomer, so far as color goes, for its appointments are in olive bronze, but it takes its name from its movement, which is like blue lightning. The train is taken over the river to Baltimore on a boat, and chatting on it with the engineer, he patted his locomotive, as it were, and said it was a fine drawer. It drew us into Washington—136 miles—in three hours and fifteen minutes. Outside of the moral aspect, Sunday is a good day for a journey. The road is clear, and the press of general travel lighter.

The B. & O. is pre-eminently a picturesque route, and the Potomac, Harper's Ferry, Martinsburg, Cumberland, etc., are alive with historic suggestions. At Harp-

er's Ferry, the old brick fort of the martyr, John Brown, still stands near the track, a monument of pathetic dilapidation.

Perhaps the most realistic and romantic descriptions of these historic grounds and of the old martyr himself, who was fighting, not against the United States, but against slavery, will be found in "Gath's," (George Alfred Townsend's) novel, "Katy of Katoctin."

The road offers a magnificent scope of changing scenes in its route over the Apalachian chain of mountains, to the lover of bold and rugged landscape.

Deer Park, on the Summit, 200 miles from Washington, claims the passing attention from its publicity through its being the favorite resort of ex-President Cleveland. It is a charming spot, even in its Spring desertion. But with its Summer life and tempered air the fancy can well conceive the charm it wields for tired presidents. Mansfield, Ohio, not materially different from other cities on the line, arouses interest as being the home of Senator Sherman. The flaming jets of natural gas in the oil fields on the line claim the attention at night. At North Baltimore there is a forest of oil derricks as far as the eye can trace. When the dead level of the prairies is reached, with the Spring rains lying in spots and the frogs croaking, it looks as if there might be a fair demand for quinine, but the residents claim (and they look it) that it is perfectly healthy. Yet some of them will say there is a "little malaria over in the next county." The territory is all thickly settled and bears the evidence of thrift.

The Sunday quiet was broken but once, when a party boarded the train carrying as baggage an unbridled twenty-pound snapping turtle by the tail. As he passed down the aisle toward the baggage car the chelonian caught a bulldog grip on one of the olive plush seats that made it need patching. That snapper evidently knew the B. & O. didn't charge extra for vestibuled limited service, and entered his protest against going into the baggage car.

Our train drew into the station in the windy and beautiful city of the coming World's Fair at 11.40 o'clock Monday morning on time to the minute.

The cranks stopped off there a few hours to breathe and eat and make some calls, among the latter, was one on Dr. Rowe, the veteran editor of the American *Field*, the paper that all genuine lovers of field sports swear by. The responsibilities of a journal that has grown into such cosmopolitan proportions as the *Field*, has not told npon the genial doctor, and he looks as hearty as he did ten years ago, though he says it sadly cuts into his time for his favorite raids after chickens, quails, snipe and ducks. The only way he can get an undisturbed hunt now, beyond business recall, he says, is to steal off to Europe and show the noble nimrods, with their great game preserves, how to shoot in American.

The great Chicago and Northwestern Railway grid-irons 4400 miles of the Northwest, and reaches about every point that a reasonable natured person could desire to arrive at for business or pleasure. In the latter schedule it covers the paradise of the country for sports-

men, and its resources for the hunter and the fisher are as varied as they are unrivalled. The Summer tourist travel and that of the fraternity of sportsmen form an important part of its traffic. One of its veins takes in Milwaukee, following the lake shore. It took us there in three hours. On the train we had our first Western whist. A party of three wishing a rubber, the longer Eastern crank sat in for the fourth. The three played their own hands without regard to partners, and the fourth had to follow suit, until one of the Westerners reached his destination, when the two Eastern cranks sat in as partners and opened out jointly on the "G. W. P." plan. One of the opponents knew how to play whist. The other, a handsome elderly man, who could have passed for either a bank president or clergyman, couldn't, or rather he played strictly for his own hand, and made his partner do likewise. The partner knew when and why the lightning struck. The handsome elderly man said he had never sat in such a run of luck, or where the cards lay so unfavorably. "Why," said he to the long-built cranks, "you're in luck with your finesses; you haven't made one that hasn't turned out well, and I haven't tried one that hasn't broken us all to pieces." They stopped at Racine, and as they walked off arm in arm, the clerical-looking man was taking in some vigorous pointers from the other, who was, evidently, a club player.

The Easton whist cranks disembarked at Milwaukee in the early evening, and abided while there at the Schlitz Hotel on the European plan, and German in

tone (but Milwaukee is founded on German, as our Northampton county is on Pennsylvania Dutch).

It is excellently kept as to rooms, table and service, and is an entirely satisfactory hotel. The only discrepancy we ran across was listed on the menu as a fine herb omlet. The omlet arrived stuffed with chopped onions, potatoes, limberger and cucumber pickles. The waiter said that was a *German* fine herb omlet. We told him how to translate it into United States herbs the next time, and he was an apt learner.

III.

The Gathering of the Fiends—The Rev. Judge Gilson's Diecison—Preliminary Whist Skirmishes—Dick Allen and the Longer Easton Fiend—Dick First Encounters Boston Meditation—Dick's Fourth Best Principle—The Opening of the Congress—President Paine's Address of Welcome—The Ladies' Athenæum—Mr. Kimball, of Philadelphia Scores His First Point.

AS the late lamented John Milton might have put it: Forthwith from all winds the living fiends did gather in the city by the inland sea. From the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the bounds of Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, did they come The long-geared fiends of Easton were dubbed fools for going over a thousand miles to play a game of whist. It was not an astonishing coincidence that nearly every fiend assembled in Milwaukee carried with him the same stigma, some of them with a profane prefix or two added. The reverend Judge Gilson, of Milwaukee, gave as his decision that both the law and the sentence for these blinded stone casters were proclaimed 1900 years ago (Matthew v. 22).

The evening of the 13th of April was spent by the visiting delegates at the rooms of the Milwaukee Whist Club in making the acquaintance of its members. This acquaintance required nothing more than an interchange of names, for the visitors were received as brothers, with open arms, and the cordiality and hospitality were as

sincere as they were unreserved. Informal rubbers of whist were engaged in, with whist talk and comparison of whist views in the interval. Easton played a number of hands against a few of the crack players of the club and against some of the delegates. Later the longer Easton fiend struck Rufus (hight Dick) Allen, one of the features of the club, for a partner. Dick plays by the individual Dick system, and during the rubber he kept the Boston meditation of the Easton fiend in a state of supreme tension in the department of whist inference. Dick's favorite fourth best principle as an original lead, is to open with the lowest from a suit of one or two low cards. His favorite coup, with two or three high cards in sequence, is to follow suit with the highest or intermediate card. The Boston meditation was kept by Dick in a tolerably steady state of tropical sweat. It remarked to Dick, after the rubber, that it was tough to come 1500 miles to be put through the paces of a guessing match by a duffer. Dick is not a slow judge of human nature, and didn't take Easton seriously enough to invite it to burn powder with him at a lonely spot on the lake, but put it in quotation marks for frequent use during the week.

For the sessions of the Congress, the club, as we have stated, engaged the Athenæum—the beautiful and capacious club house owned by the ladies of Milwaukee.

The First American Whist Congress convened in it April 14th, 1891, at 3 o'clock p. m. President Cassius M. Paine opened the session with a compact address of welcome, in which, after referring to the motive of the

Congress and the history of whist, with some brief words of Milwaukee's growth as a business and art centre, he said :

We take exceptional pride in placing this handsome building at your disposal, the Athenæum. It is owned and managed exclusively by ladies. They organized the corporation, subscribed the stock, and made the undertaking a permanent success. You will find many other features of interest.

The Layton Art Gallery, which is directly on the way from here to your hotel, is deserving of not only one, but several visits. Our beautiful bay and handsome residences cannot fail to charm you.

(Mr. William S. Kimball, of the Hamilton Club, Philadelphia, here interrupted Mr. Paine on a point of order for his omitting to say that the ladies of the Athenæum and of the city of Milwaukee were handsomer and more charming than their handsome homes. Mr. Kimball was unanimously sustained by the delegates, and Mr. Paine accepted the amendment with a trifle of confusion, but with the apt remark that it was more becoming for this recognition to come from the visitors than from a resident.)

Mr. Paine continued—Gentlemen : You are convened to organize the First American Whist Congress.

To this end the Milwaukee Whist Club is merely a unit, and will not even present a suggestion until after the organization, and then only on the same terms as the other delegates.

We are assembled under the most propitious circum-

stances for entertainment and good fellowship. The credentials of a whist player are the best letter of introduction you could possibly bring. Whist is an evidence of gentility, therefore, wherever whist is played intelligently, good society may also be found, and the announcement, "I am a whist player," will always gain an entrance to that society. We hope, therefore, you will feel at home from the start, and be free to converse with all. If you do not know each other when you sit down to play, you will be acquainted when the game is over. This is a part of whist developments.

We reproduce this part of President Paine's address, rather than its technical portions, to show the spirit of good will and hospitality that possessed these broad natured Milwaukeeans for their visitors and guests.

Mr. Eugene S. Elliott, of the home club, was then nominated for chairman, and he was unanimously elected both temporary and permanent chairman of the Congress.

R. F. Foster, of the Manhattan Club, New York, was elected Secretary. Mr. Elliott, on taking the chair, made a brief and appropriate address.

Some general discussion then followed as to the line of business the Congress should act upon, with the better method of transacting it. A few committees were appointed, and with the announcement of the programme for the evening's play, that the Milwaukee Club would meet any number of the delegates in friendly contests, the Congress adjourned.

IV.

The Great Tilt of Milwaukee Against All America—The Individualities of the Maelstrom—Kimball, of Philadelphia, Scores Another Point—Summary of the Killed, Crippled and Missing—The Moral of the Encounter.

IF there is any one event of the Congress more worthy of special note than another, it is the contest of Tuesday evening, April 14, when the Milwaukeeans met in combat the picked pairs of the country and "scooped 'em." The Milwaukee whist cranks are pretty hardy fellows, but the result of this battle was too much for most of them. It wasn't pleasurable to meet any of them after the fight; it was awkward explaining how it so happened. The burden of proof was against you, if you were a visitor.

This Milwaukee Club has been altogether too successful—too successful by far—in all of its inter-club contests, for continued success has the tendency of making even whist cranks vain, and it was remarked that some of these fellows carried their heads rather high. On this account it was hoped that this time the Milwaukee Whist Club would receive an "all fired licking" from the foreign contingent; but it was not so nominated in the bond, for when the smoke of battle cleared away it was found that the visitors were the victims to the tune of 267 points.

Play commenced at 8 o'clock. There were twenty-six tables—104 players in all. This is, perhaps, the largest number of players ever engaged in a match in this or any other country. Play closed at 11 o'clock. The detailed score follows. (The Milwaukeeans are named first in each instance.)

Allen and Gilson, 77 ; Ellison and Townsend, 57.

The least we say about "Dick" (they call Rufus Allen "Dick" in Milwaukee) and the Judge, the better, perhaps—for us. We ran afoul of the first named the evening we landed, and we haven't yet recovered from the effects of it. By the time this crack pair from the Hamilton Club of Philadelphia got through dodging the chicanery of this versatile duo they probably didn't know if they were afoot or ahorseback.

Atwater and Chapin, 62 ; Parks and Hays, of St. Paul, Minn., 55.

Chapin is a modest fellow, and stopped at 62. Nobody will ever know where this score would have gone to had Chapin not held Atwater in.

Blecher and Dorland, 40 ; Orndorff and Stewart, the former of Worcester and the latter of Detroit, 29.

You see it is easy to account for this little matter of 11 points. Stewart was reserving his strength for the individual contest, and Orndorff's duplicate whist system was nearest his heart. Had the doctor not been thinking of chicken salad and quail on toast, and who he would corral for his toast victims, he probably wouldn't have trumped Belcher's ace—but 11 is enough.

Comstock and Chandler, 87; Briggs and Briggs, of Minneapolis, 48.

It will take this blooming pair of purple lilacs from Minneapolis the rest of their natural lives to account for this result. The tricks that the B's *didn't* score "were frightful to see," and the Milwaukee pair counted faster than a Minneapolis census enumerator. (Referred to St. Paul.) Chandler wanted to go faster, but Comstock said: "No, let's keep the score under 300."

Thayer and Northrop, 81; Safford, of Washington, and Barney, of Providence, R. I., 59.

This is nothing. What else can you expect when you hitch up a Rhode Island Yankee and an Inter-State Commission Attorney. If Thayer hadn't missed Northrop's trump signal—but Thayer says he saw it and refrained from answering out of purely humane motives.

Hall and Elliott, 52; Smith and Lodge, of Albany, N. Y., 48.

Chairman Elliott had no business to ask Smith right out blunt what a "composite picture was"—to spring it on him like a Johnstown flood! It was a very cool procedure, and if Elliott didn't know what a "composite picture" was, how did he expect Smith to know? This is about the only rude thing Elliott did. Lodge swears this is the reason they got worsted. Hall insists that the excuse lacks relevancy, as Elliott shot the interrogatory at Smith on Thursday.

Streeter and Hopkins, 67; Hall and Stevens, of University Club, Chicago, 65.

It was expected that Chicago would get there—she generally does. Hopkins says that Streeter's mind was on that magnificent Townsend medal; hence, the narrow margin.

Hard and Josslyn, 62; Fisk and Waller, of University Club, Chicago, 51.

It could hardly be expected that the University Club should get everything. This is a first-class excuse for these 11 points.

Hickok and Atwell, 65; Young and Reed, 46.

Young gives as an excuse for this that he couldn't read his partner's play.

Nash and Merrill, 60; Rowlson and Burnham, of Hillsdale, Mich., 35.

This is only a little matter of 25 points. Hillsdale is probably used to this—they don't try to explain it.

Crossman and Patterson, 36; Herr and Pickering, Wahpanseh, of Chicago, 53.

Wahpanseh got there. This is probably why Herr objected to having his photograph taken unless he had a day or two's time to fix up. He is a modest fellow—so Pickering says. He was noted for this trait when he filled the chair of civil engineering in Lehigh University, Bethlehem.

Dewey and Bryden, 38; Kimball and Walton, of the Hamilton Club, Philadelphia, 39.

This Hamiltonian pair of thoroughbreds trotted well together and came in a nose ahead—won by one they came. Kimball says that it was his finesse that did it,

and he is going to teach it to Townsend and Ellison before they go to Milwaukee again.

Ryan and Tweedy, 38; Schwarz and Kirk, of the Englewood Club, Chicago, 60.

Nothing mean about the city of Chicago. She will take in Milwaukee the next time she "extends."

Pirie and Swan, 53; Holden and Hammond, of the Illinois Club, Chicago, 61.

They told us in Chicago that Hammond said: "Hold on, the play is too swan-like." If "Ham." really said this, it was equivalent to taking an unfair advantage, for how could Pirie and Swan play whist after a pun like this?

Bass and Keats, 51; Sheldon and Walker, of Chicago, 48.

As this only adds the odd three to the 267, it's not worth talking about.

Delaney and Graves, 52; French and Walker, of Chicago, 29.

Walker, when questioned, said solemnly that it was a very grave affair; so much so that French didn't play his usual game. There might be some truth in this.

Rheinart and Wight, 62; Hamilton and Boutcher, of Easton, 29.

Did you ever step on quicksand, fancying it was firm earth? Ever lay your hand on the teeth of a corn sheller, or get caught in a thunder storm without your lightning rod? Ever in a detatchment of Grant's regulars on a reconnoisance and get swooped upon by Gen. Moseby's guerrillas? We shall be happy to give any

skeptic letters and let him feel the corn sheller of Gen. Moseby Rheinart's and Wight's guerrilla tactics.

Payne and Hopkins, 86; Luce and Shumway, of Chicago, 77.

Shumway said that it gave him a pain the way Hopkins hopped around from one suit to another. Luce ventured to remark that some way or another they were 9 points to the bad.

Mann and Greene, 59; Heron and Anderson, of Indianapolis Whist Club, 52.

Heron said they had a green man against them and should win. Anderson was heard to remark the next day that had Heron's head been as long as his legs he would not have presumed so much.

Swain and Sanderson, 57; Boyd and Bates, of Waukesha, Wis., 31.

Some said that Boyd bet Bates that "apt alliteration's artful aid" would stand them in good stead. But painstaking Paine caught on and met the B's with S's, which accounts for this little matter of 26.

Kurtz and Nunnemacher, 32; Comminger and Catterson, of Indianapolis, 59.

This was due to a misunderstanding. Kurtz and Nunnemacher thought that Paine and Elliott wanted the Milwaukee boys to be easy—part of the courtesy and hospitality of the club. But it seems that these two were one of the very few pairs who paid any attention to orders.

Smith and Paine, 92; Gurley and Cherry, of the Denver Whist Club, 58.

Gurley told us Saturday night, in Chicago, in the cafe of the Grand Pacific—while we were waiting for a lemonade—in his emphatic Rocky Mountain style, that it was "Raw Bald headed Luck." Cherry—who, by the way, asked for "one"—was reticent, but he did say later on in the night that Gurley had prompted Safford to offer that resolution on betting, and he winked suggestively. Just imagine if this had been for a nickel a point—58 from 92 leaves—but anybody can see that betting "is contrary to good morals." This child like and bland Paine and "Intaglio" make a smooth pair and will come the "Pa and Uncle George" on you any time.

Farnham and Moore, 41; Bates and Lewis, of Indianapolis, 43.

This is one of the few oases in the vast desert of defeats. It might have been more the other way if Farnham had unblocked.

Vilas and McGregor, 52; Cushman and Smith, of Boston, 54.

This tickled Cushman more than all the big bills he will sell in a month.

Brigham and Miller, 71; Richards, of Dubuque, and Everard, of Kalamazoo, 45.

This broke the Dubuquean's heart, and the "subsequent proceedings" had no interest for B. L. R. Everard's countenance betokened that he would like a shot at this pair with his duplicate trays.

Moody and Atkins, 52; Sholl and Cherrill, of Carthage, 27.

Cherrill said it made him moody the way Atkins shirked the conventionalities, but he always found when depositors were short in his bank, the more they were short, and the more they explained, the less convincing they were. So he thought talents of the "silent kind," like Dudu's, discreeter, and he'd charge the 25 points up to the shady side of profit and loss without ado.

SUMMARY.

Tables	26
Milwaukee made in points	1,525
Visitors " "	1,258
Milwaukee Club won by	267
Milwaukee pairs who won	18
Visiting pairs	8

The general explanation for this roasting is, "it was luck." But don't lay such flattering unction to your soul. Recollect there were 26 tables, and that play lasted for three hours.

Just put this on your bulletin board:

"The 52 Milwaukee players played might heady whist," and put the work "luck" in your pipe and smoke it. Some were disposed to attribute results to guerrilla versus regular tactics, but they should remember there is as much difference in the strength of guerrilla as in regular conventions—for instance, General Moseby Rheinart's. Their own Western poet, "Ironquill," writes a cyclonic fable, from which, with a little paraphrasing, can be drawn quite an applicable Milwaukeean moral:

Once a Kansas zephyr strayed
Where a brass-eyed bird-pup played,
And that foolish canine bayed
  At that zephyr in a gay,
  Semi-idiotic way,
Then that zephyr, in about
  Half a jiffy, took that pup,
  Tipped him over wrong-side up.
Then it turned him inside out,
  And it calmly journeyed thence,
  With a barn and string of fence.

When communities turn loose
Social forces that produce
  The disorders of a gale
Act upon the well-known law;
Face the breeze, but close your jaw,
  It's a rule that will not fail.
If you bay it in a gay,
Self-sufficient sort of way,
  It will land you, without doubt,
  Upside down and inside out.

V.

The Contest for the Streeter Prize Medal—The Foster System of Duplicate—Three Clubs Tie—The Saw Off—Paine, as Dummy, Wins It, but is Not in It—The Prize Goes to the Hamilton Club, Philadelphia—The Kalamazoo Duplicate Trays.

ON Wednesday afternoon the contest for the prize medal, worth $200, offered by Mr. A. Streeter, of the Milwaukee Club, for the best individual score, took place. It was our opinion then as it is now, and it was also the opinion of the Committee on Matches, of which Mr. Orndorff, of Worcester, an expert on duplicate whist matters, and Captain Walton, of the Hamilton Club, of Philadelphia, who was Chairman, were members, that there can be no method devised by which a fair test of the individual strength of so many contestants may be compared.

This is particularly true of a contest of such magnitude when the play can last but a few hours. It was thought by many that this match should not take place, and that Mr. Streeter be asked to offer his beautiful trophy to competing pairs or to teams of four. Time, however, was pressing, and the committee finally decided that it had no option in the matter, and that it must decide upon some system. Several systems were suggested, but that of Mr. Foster's invention seemed to be the only one which in any measure met the require-

ments of the case, the committee trusting that by this plan an approximate estimate of the individual rank of the participants might be obtained.

We believe that a contest or tournament under Mr. Foster's system lasting several days between players, the weakest of whom play fair whist, would result in bunching the strongest at the top, and that a very fair grade of all the players, as to their relative rank, could be obtained.

By Mr. Foster's system the greatest number of points made by any pair in any hand establishes the standard of the possibilities of this hand. To illustrate this, A B, two players of ordinary force, play a hand against two very weak opponents, C D, and through the weak play, or bad blunders, or both, of C D, A B score all thirteen tricks, or 7 by cards. The score sheet shows A B, 13; C D, 0. The score sheet travels with this hand, and this hand is played by every other pair against pair. Now, suppose that this hand and score sheet come to a table at which four fine players are sitting. The hand is played in the best manner possible by all, no trick having been lost, and C D score the odd card. This entry is now placed upon the score sheet A B, 6; C D, 7. Here you see "A B No. 2" have lost 7 tricks as against "A B No. 1," and "C D No. 2" have gained 7 tricks over "C D No. 1." In the A B's the ordinary players have an advantage of 7 tricks over the fine pair of players. Now if "A B No. 2" could meet "C D No. 1" they might have a chance of squaring up the score, but in this particular instance "A B No. 2" did not have "C

D No. 1" for adversaries, unless they happened to be in their set of eight, as you only changed places and partners with the players at your own table and the table next to you. The fault was more due to the lack of time, to thoroughly test the system, and the players, than to the system, as Mr. Foster pointed out.

Over sixty took part in the contest and 576 hands were played. After three hours' play the result showed that Mr. E. P. Townsend, of the Hamilton Club, Mr. W. P. Stewart, of the Detroit Club, and C. D. P. Hamilton, of the Pomfret Club, had tied for the trophy, each having lost according to the plan of reckoning 10 tricks.

How to decide this "three cornered" result was a puzzler. Mr. Streeter finally suggested that a fourth man be taken in to make up the table, and then each of the three "champions" play an equal nnmber of hands with the fourth man as partner. This seemed to be the best way out of the difficulty and was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. C. M. Paine, the President of the Milwaukee Club, was the choice of all three. Mr. Paine "not to be in it," except as the make up." The final struggle came off Friday morning and afternoon, ending a little after 7 in the evening.

Ihling Bros. and Everard's duplicate whist system, known as the Kalamazoo method, was adopted for this contest.

The final result was in the nature of a joke, for when the scores were added up, it was found that the "make-up," Mr. Paine, had the highest score, and had, consequently, played the best whist—at least he had 8 points

more to his credit than the next highest—Mr. Townsend, but, as Mr. Paine was "not in it," the trophy was handed to Mr. Townsend. Mr. Paine is not a vain man, and he unconsciously blushed at the splendid compliment the final score paid him, for he was indeed "in it" with a vengeance after all.

The duplicate trays, or tablets, referred to, obviate the mechanical objections to duplicate whist, and render it simple and practicable. The trays are binders' boards about ten inches square, covered with cloth. The face of them have stars and indices to mark the dealer and leader, with rubber bands to hold each hand after it is played. The backs are numbered, so that in the overplay the trays can be mixed or shuffled without any risk of confusing the hands or record. For a single table these trays are very convenient, and with their aid the game progresses with as much facility as the ordinary game. When two or more tables use them, the explanations that accompany them for this purpose are easily understood. When we come across any discovery in the interests of whist, it gives us pleasure to recognize and recommend it. And these trays are as much of an advance upon the clumsy and tedious ways in vogue of preserving hands as forks were upon fingers. We indorse them as indispensable for clubs, and equally so for home players, who will find pleasure in duplicate whist thus simplified. They are made by Ihling Brothers and Everard, Kalamazoo, Mich., and cost, with set of counters, and score cards, $5 per set of sixteen trays.

VI.

Proceedings of the Second Day's Congress—Interesting Letter from Nicholas Browse Trist—"Cavendish's" System Recommended.

THE second day's session of the Whist Congress convened at 10 a. m., April 15. The number of delegates was nearly double that of the first day, and the hall was well filled.

A resolution was adopted that no club shall hereafter be represented in the Congress, except by one of its own members. The spirit of the rule is that a club cannot be represented by proxy, and that a member of two or more clubs can represent but one designated club.

Nicholas Browse Trist, of Orleans, is one of the most prominent names in the whist world. He was one of the men that every delegate expected to meet at Milwaukee, and it was a source of genuine disappointment to everyone when it was learned that this distinguished authority was unable to be present.

The following letter from him, which was read by United States Commissioner Safford, of Washington, D. C., was some compensation:

To the President and Members of the First American Whist Congress:

GENTLEMEN: Circumstances not under my control, having deprived me of the pleasure of taking part in the Whist Congress, I venture to express by letter my

opinion on two questions, which, I understand, will be submitted to you for consideration.

First in importance is the matter of recommending or adopting a text book to be the standard for the rules of play, which everybody concedes should be uniform wherever the game is practiced. You probably all remember that Mr. James Clay, the finest player of his day, said that "Whist is a language and every card played an intelligible sentence." This card language has been gradually evolved through nearly two centuries of play and it is to be desired that it should be and remain a kind of Whist Volapuk, universally understood, so that players who meet for the first time may comprehend each other's card sentences. This can only be accomplished by following but one system of play. In order to ascertain which is the best, we must put aside national pride and prejudice and turn to the country where the game originated. A study of its history shows that the rules of play followed by the best players in England are based on the experience of many years, supplemented, where possible, by calculations made by eminent mathematicians, such as Dr. William Pole and others. We also find that the result of that long experience and of those intricate calculations have been embodied in a book by "Cavendish"—the history of the origin of which I gave in Harper's for March—and that changes made from time to time are introduced in the latest editions. Before, however, being definitely adopted, such changes or innovations are first proposed in the Card Column of the London *Field*, in which they are discussed by the leading authorities on the game, who also give them a trial in actual play, and, if found satisfactory, they are presented to the whist playing public, in a tentative sort of way, in an appendix to the next edition; there, they undergo another probation before being incorporated in the work as a permanent

feature of the game. This cautious mode of proceeding cannot help but be productive of satisfactory results, especially as there are some noted players in England, conservative to that extreme, that they oppose all changes, and who never fail to assail vigorously any points which they think vulnerable in the proposed innovations, which are consequently pretty well threshed out before adoption. For these reasons, I consider "Cavendish on Whist" to be by far the best practical guide to the game. Should it be adopted by the Congress as their text book, a step will have been taken which would tend to restore to whist in this country that uniformity in the mode of play, which is so much to be desired, in order that the fundamental principle of the Combination of the partnership's hand may be maintained as a general ruling system. Of course, when I recommend "Cavendish," I include any appendix attached to his last edition.

The other question is the adoption of a code of laws. It is needless to say that I consider the deduction or adding of points, except in cases of revoke, as penalties for whist offenses, to be contrary to the principle on which whist laws should be based; consequently, I advise that we again profit by the experience of our English cousins. They already have an elaborate code of laws, which is authority all over England and in many clubs in this country, and which will subserve our purposes very well by eliminating from it all matter pertaining to the counting of honors, which has been almost universally abolished in this country as a blemish on a game which claims to be scientific.

It is probable that some changes also in the mode of scoring will be proposed, The English system does not seem to be popular, as is shown by the fact that half a dozen ways of counting prevail in this country, one of which is entirely wrong in principle when single

games are played without taking into account any points scored by the losers. In my opinion, the game, where honors are not counted, should consist of seven points. This is the nominal count, being the greatest number of tricks which can be made in one hand. It is contrary to the general principle of counting, in any game of cards, that more tricks can be made in one hand than are necessary to win the game. This principle was acted upon in the original count in whist, which consisted of ten points—four by honors and six by cards—the most possible, for the game in its incipiency being played with forty-eight cards, the four deuces being withdrawn from the pack. The points were afterwards arbitrarily reduced to five, for the reasons which we have all read of in Mr. Clay's book. In the game of seven points, single games, and not rubbers, are played, and the losers get credit for any points which they may have won; for instance, with four scored they lose but three. This is somewhat analogous in its result to the English method of scoring.

The seven point game has the advantage of being shorter than the rubber, consequently the players who are out have not to wait so long before cutting in. Again, that game is akin to long whist, which Clay, "Cavendish" and other authorities pronounce to be a superior game to short whist.

Could not as many as possible of the games at duplicate whist in the tournament be taken down as played? This could readily be accomplished by having printed blanks, to be filled as the hand progresses. It would be both very instructive and interesting to analyze them afterwards and compare the play. The games could be published in pamphlet form, and would doubtless meet with a ready sale.

Let the interest I take in the welfare of whist, which

I always have at heart, be my apology for obtruding my views on you. Respectfully,

N. B. TRIST.

The letter was warmly applauded and referred to the Committee on Laws.

A resolution was discussed and passed that the number of delegates each club should be entitled to in a Congress should not be restricted, except as to voting. The rest of the day's session was given to hearing reports from committees, chiefly upon the arrangements for conducting contests in duplicate whist between delegates and members of the Milwaukee Club. In the afternoon the contest in duplicate whist occurred to test the strength of individual players after Mr. Foster's system, of New York.

VII.

A Duplicate Contest Between Milwaukee and Easton—Personnel of President Singleton Paine and Winfield Smith—A Close Tussel, and Easton Wins.

THE first contest between delegates and Milwaukeeans in the nature of a test of the relative strength of the system, or method of play in vogue with the first rank players of the home club, as against any other method of play, took place on the evening of April 15, through the acceptance of a challenge match in duplicate by the Easton pair from Cassius M. Paine and H. L. Smith, representative players of the Milwaukee Club, the former its President.

It will be as fitting a place in these notes as any to refer to the distinguished young president of the club, but why such a prepossessing man should be or remain a singleton puzzleth our whist inference, for he has the type of face that a cynic would trust and a woman love on sight. His must be a case like the popular young clergyman's, who, if he takes one of his flock to himself, can count on the rest of the flock as his enemy, and as well break camp for another parish, and Paine can't be spared from the Milwaukee Club just yet.

As one of the graybeards of the club said to us—our President, you see, is a youngster, but I think you'll admit a very promising one. He is remarkably modest, but as studious and persevering as he is modest,

and possesses an alert and active mind, with an unlimited zeal for the game, and he has steadily progressed into the very first rank of players.

Mr. Eugene S. Elliott, the President of the Congress said to us: "Our fellows are kind enough to give me the credit of the success of the Congress, but in my opinion a large share of this credit is due to Mr. Paine, who, as President of our Club, entered enthusiastically into the scheme when proposed, never objected to anything that was reasonable, and for several weeks before the meeting gave his entire time and attention to caring for the details, which, in an affair of that kind, are simply enormous. He had his reward, and I think it was a rich one, in the result of the championship game."

[By this Mr. Elliott means where Mr. Paine stood as fourth player in the play off with the three who tied for the medal, and led the highest individual record of the three by 8 points.]

"Mr. Paine likes duplicate whist as sincerely as Mr. Dick Allen detests it, which emphasizes the fact, that probably no two persons were ever put upon such a radically antagonistic whist base as Rufus Allen and C. M. Paine, yet they are fine players and fine fellows."

"We agree with President Elliott, and cipher out that he means "Dick" is a prince of whist guerrillas, and Paine an arrant regular.

Mr. H. L. Smith is a brilliant writer, and at one time edited an able whist department in *Yenowine's News*, and he is ranked as one of the very strongest players in the West. The soundness and brilliancy of his play

in this contest gave unqualified evidence of his whist ability.

By reference to the appended score-sheet, it will be seen that the game was a remarkably close and even one. Out of the sixteen hands, with the overplay making thirty-two hands in all, there were nine ties, three gains of one point on each side, and one gain of three points on the Easton side, which made them winners by the gain in that one hand.

The Milwaukee team played by the modern Cavendish system with one or two exceptions. They played deliberately and thoughtfully, and their whist table deportment was a pattern for all players. No manifestations of any character were made by them during the four and a half hours of the play.

The Easton pair played strictly by the "G. W. P." system. One of their gains was made by the much abused nine lead from nine, knave and king, through the failure of one of the opponents, holding ace and queen, to cover with the queen. The Easton's gain of three points was by their unblocking and the failure of the opponents to unblock the suit when they played the hand.

Mr. Paine is level-headed, logical and observing, and he was frank in the statement of his conclusions that the Easton players gave closer attention to all the major and minor details of the game than they were accustomed to give.

This and the contest of teams of four against four, under the Orndorff system, were the only duplicate con-

tests during the Congress. It is worthy of note they were both won by the visiting delegates who played strictly the "G. W. P." system.

C. M. Paine } vs. { C. S. Boutcher
H. L. Smith } { C. D. P. Hamilton

First Play.	Second Play.	Gains.	Number of Deal.	Gains.	First Play.	Second Play.
8	5		1		5	8
7	6		2		6	7
10	3		3		3	10
4	9		4		9	4
8	6	1	5		5	7
5	7		6	1	8	6
5	8		7		8	5
4	6		8	3	9	7
5	8		9		8	5
5	7		10	1	8	6
9	4		11		4	9
12	1		12		1	12
6	7		13		7	6
4	10	1	14		9	3
2	10		15	1	11	3
6	8	1	16		7	5
100	105	3		6	108	103
	100			3		108
	205		Net gain, 3			211

VIII.

Communication from the Distinguished Authority, "Cavendish"—His Views on King Leads and Four Trump Signal—"Cavendish's" Methods with the Whist World—R. A. Gurley, of Denver, Enters an Appearance—He is Probably the Originator of the Four Trump Signal.

THE whist matter of the *Free Press* is a subject of interest with the whist world generally throughout the United States, and it has attracted no little attention in other countries.

Our past and recent discussions of the four trump signal, with our position that it is antagonistic to the advanced order of play, viz, the plain suit echo, and that the two cannot consistently co-exist, has brought forth considerable commentary and discussion from a number of quarters. Some of this is from such distinguished authority that we shall refer to it especially in this article.

The first is Mr. Henry Jones, "Cavendish," of London, whose name and writings are known and accepted as authority wherever whist is known. We have had occasion to quote him very frequently in our whist department, and to follow the evolution of his several editions into what is becoming the generally accepted order of the higher rank conduct of the game.

This evolution is not volcanic or of electric sudden-

ness, but is more akin to the slower growth of our terrestrial geology. "Cavendish" recognizes this, and during his long connection with the London *Field* as editor of its whist department, and as the author of the numerous books on whist bearing his well known *non de plume*, he has never attempted to force public opinion before it was ripe, no matter how absolute his conviction that he was right, and the public wrong; but, with masterly tact, he takes the public into his confidence, presents his arguments upon any new discovery or method and asks for criticism for or against. He arouses discussion and, therefore, interest, the subject gets ventilation, analysis and illustration, and the correct conclusion is rarely missed. By this politic course cliques and friction are avoided, and whist interests are stimulated and united—a consummation devoutly to be wished, for the rapidly growing whist world. Even so recently as in the *London Field* of the week of May 8, he gives a characteristic example of his diplomacy in these regards.

He is discussing the abandonment of the lead of the knave from a head sequence, for the lead of the fourth best, on the ground that it lessens the disturbance of the informatory character of the knave led from its high combinations.

He presents the arguments that occur to him for its abandonment for the fourth best, and approves of the fourth best lead, but he asks for further arguments and discussion from all sources that have anything to communicate.

This is the true type of administration in government or in whist.

"Cavendish on Whist" is now in its eighteenth edition, and the nineteenth is in hand.

The eighteenth appendix adopts the new order of play, and the principles that the whist world is uniting upon.

The nineteenth appendix's chief feature will be the king leads; the king, as advanced whist players know and practice, being obsolete as a lead from the old combinations of king ace, and king queen, when there are more than four cards in the suit.

WHAT CAVENDISH WRITES US.

"Cavendish" writes us under date of May 7:

"The appendix on king leads will be rewritten (indeed has been), in order to show how number and combination led from may always be shown on second round of strong suit, doing away with third round inferences altogether, and so simplifying."

In reference to the four trump signal discussed in the *Free Press*, Cavendish writes:

"As at present advised, I am opposed to four signal, for reasons too long to enter into in a letter.

"The play neutralizes the effect of the unblocking system, and is therefore favorable to A B's adversaries—as you say, it puts A to a guess. It would therefore be useful, not as indicating four trumps, but as puzzling the adversaries."

Mr. R. A. Gurley, of Denver, Col., is another leading whistite, who has communicated with us on the four trump signal, and we take the liberty of quoting him

because of his whist ability, and his prominent connection with whist authorities.

He has had a long and intimate association with Nicholas Browse Trist, of New Orleans, the discoverer of the fourth best principle, and he has sat with and against him and his partner Kennedy at the game during a number of years.

Gurley and his Denver partner, Cherry, carried off the second dis-honors of the Milwaukee Congress in the great tilt of the home club against all the United States. They could not do any better, as the Briggs Brothers, of Minneapolis, insisted on carrying off the first—Easton and Philadelphia following hard upon for third and fourth place.

Gurley and his associate in adversity have since been taking their revenge by knocking everything senseless in the shape of whist fiends in the Rocky Mountains, at duplicate whist.

WHAT TRIST'S ASSOCIATE WRITES US.

He thus writes the *Free Press* from Denver, May 7, of the four trump signal in plain suits:

"On the eve of the Tilden–Hayes election, November, 1876, we played it here for the first time, and I introduced it into the old Buffalo Club in 1883.

"I proposed it to my partner, Jacobson, at that time, and we played it for years.

"The London *Field* came out in an article rather in its favor two years ago last February, but I have yet to learn whether it is best to continue it or not. I note the *Free Press* comments upon it, but my views remained unchanged, tho' I do not wish to be under-

stood as supporting it as against the unblocking system. I can never recall blocking my partner but three times in eighteen years' play.

"I think a good whist player will get out of the way when he feels that partner is absolutely secure in suit."

Brother Gurley is evidently on the fence as to the four trump signal, and it remains to be seen whether we shall have to blow him off his perch with one of those gentle Kansas zephyrs.

We think he would feel happier if he couldn't recall blocking his partner's suit even three times in eighteen years by the use of the four trump signal. (We know little of the veracity of his memory.) But a player as full of whist perception and resources as he, would not be expected to block his partner by any system, but the ordinary mortal at the whist table is not so blest. We recall an instance of his grasp in an emergency, when he sat with us as partner at the Illinois Club, Chicago, on the evening of April 18, against two of its members. Trumps were declared against us. He had two small trumps and the controlling card of a plain suit in which he knew opponents both held cards, and his partner not any. He led this master card which his partner trumped with his only trump, and gave him a suit which he could ruff. He let his partner in again on a plain suit, got another ruff, the three joint trumps were made separately and the game was saved, against any other play.

We shall be glad to have Rocky Mt. Gurley follow his first edition on the four trump signal with an "appendix" that is not so rocky.

IX.

Mr. Foster, of New York, sends us a hand played between Deshapelles' Favorite Partner, Rheinart, and His Partner, Wight, and the Easton Delegates—An Interesting Study.

R. F. Foster, of New York, the Secretary of the Congress, was ubiquitous during the session of the Whist Congress. He has versatile accomplishments outside of his whist, one of which is stenography, and during the tournament play he circulated among the players taking notes of the hands and play where players of repute or of different systems were engaged.

As Mr. Rheinart is a noted man, the nestor of the Milwaukee Club, and as long as forty-five years ago, a favorite partner of the French whist genius, Deschapelles, much interest centred about his style of play, and consequently Mr. Foster took down a number of the hands played at his table in the contest between Milwaukee and all America.

One of these hands, with the play, Mr. Foster has kindly sent us, and as such records are of interest to the whist world, we give it with comments and analysis, precisely as we would give it of any other play or hand that comes before us.

Should Mr. Foster send us a hand of the sitting in which Easton made a break, we should ventilate and score the bad play exactly according to its deserts.

Below is the game referred to:

THE HANDS.

A
- Spades—7, 6, 4.
- Hearts—ace, k., kn., 7, 6.
- Clubs—4.
- Diamonds—q., 9, 6, 3.

B
- Spades—qu., 10, 9, 3.
- Hearts—9, 5.
- Clubs—qu., kn. 8, 5.
- Diamonds—k., kn., 8.

C
- Spades—k., kn., 8, 2.
- Hearts—10, 3.
- Clubs—9, 6, 3.
- Diamonds—ace, 7, 5, 2.

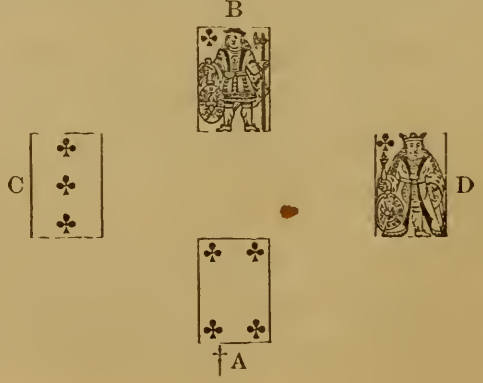
D
- Spades—ace, 5.
- Hearts—qu., 8, 4, 2.
- Clubs—ace, k., 10, 7, 2.
- Diamonds—10, 4.

C. S. Boutcher (D) dealt and turned 2 h.; W. W. Wight (A); C. D. P. Hamilton (C); John Rheinart (B). No score, the sitting being for points.

THE PLAY.

[The dagger (†) the leader.]

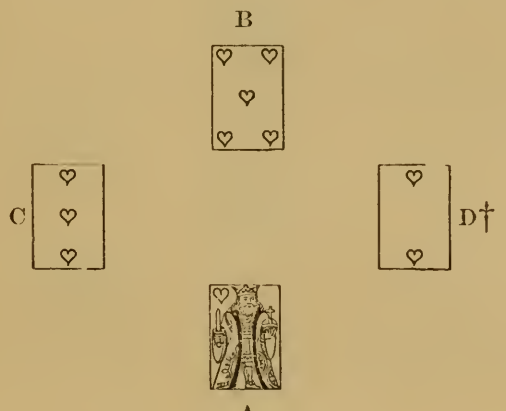
TRICK 1



A B, 0
C D, 1

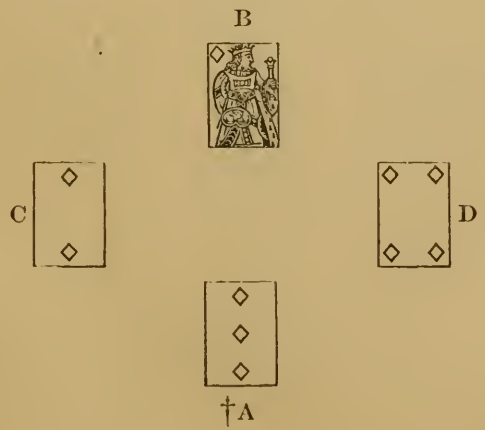
The original lead of the singleton by A is a good illustration of the tactics so popular with these old school players of the Milwaukee Club. This order of play—or, rather, the absence of order—must invariably lose against conventional play. This is absolute, and as self-evident as a proposition in Euclid. When order is violated the language of the cards becomes unintelligible and the intellectual beauties of the game are lost.

TRICK 2



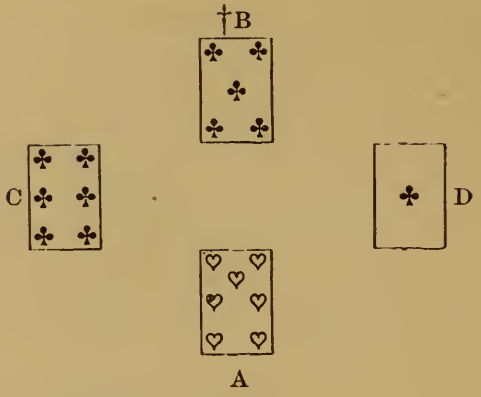
A B, 1
C D, 1

TRICK 3



A B, 2
C D, 1

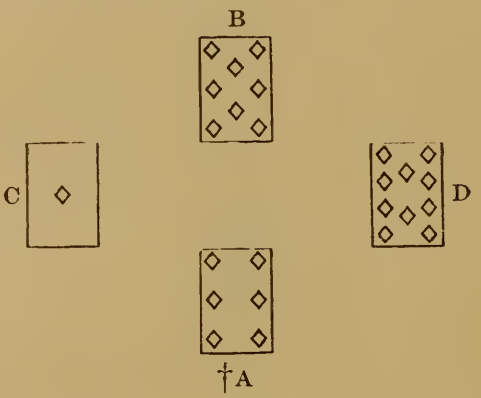
TRICK 4



A B, 3
C D, 1

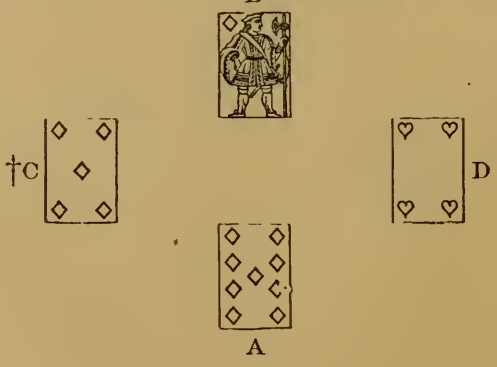
"A gets in a little trump."

TRICK 5



A B, 3
C D, 2

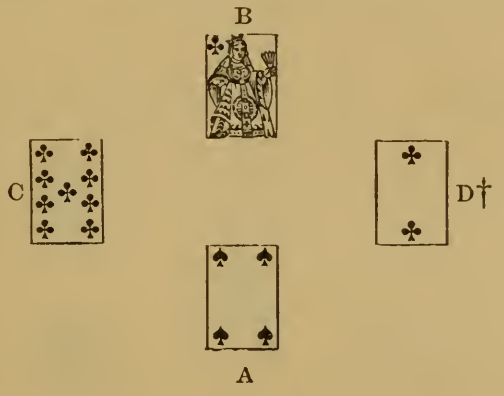
TRICK 6



A B, 3
C D, 3

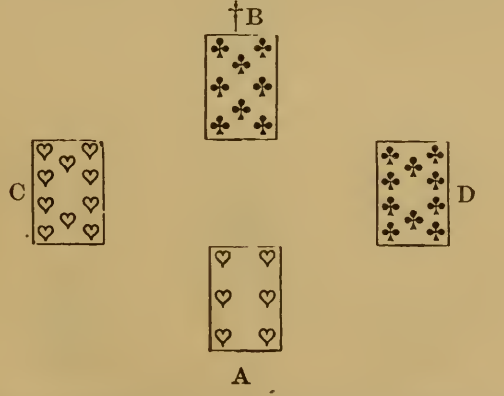
C reads the queen of clubs with B and the best diamonds with A, and the strength of trumps against them, as D showed but four by the lead of the 2. To return the trump would be fatal. The lead of the diamond, to be taken by D, who in turn must return a club, throwing the lead into B's hand, that he may lead a club or a spade—this was C's intent.

TRICK 7



A B, 4
C D, 3

TRICK 8

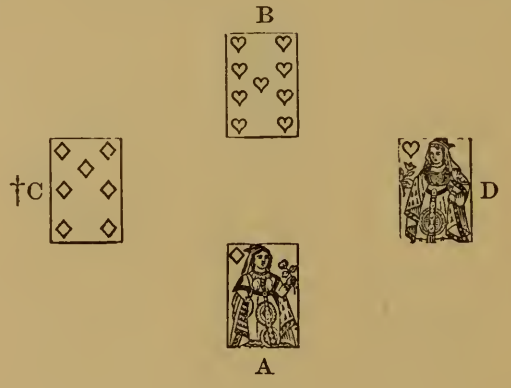


A B, 4
C D, 4

A and B each failed to take in the situation here, and played as C had hoped they would when at trick 6 he led the 5 of diamonds. B should unquestionably have

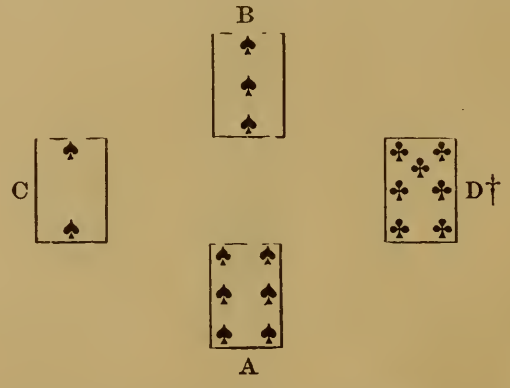
led the 9 of hearts through D, reading the probable tenace with A over D. C could not have strength of trumps, or he would most likely have returned the trump. Had B led the 9 of hearts here, A B would have scored two by card. A, however, could still have saved the odd from the wreck had he properly trumped with the knave. The 6 must lose if C had a trump.

TRICK 9



A B, 4
C D, 5

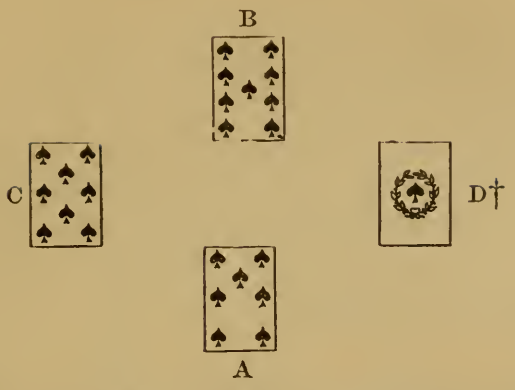
TRICK 10



A B, 4
C D, 6

A should have trumped this thirteener, drawn the last trump from D, and trusted to B taking the needed trick in spades.

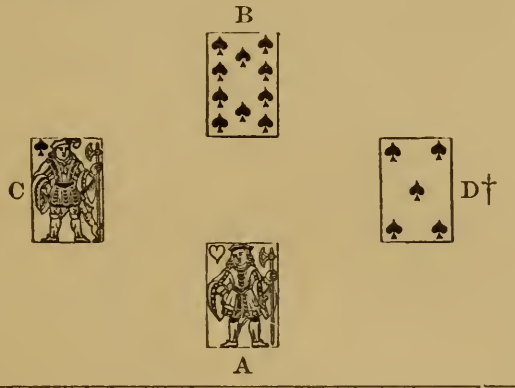
TRICK 11



A B; 4
C D, 7

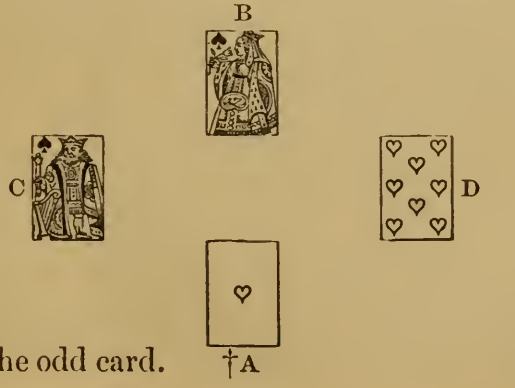
D leads the ace of spades to make the odd, as a must have just one spade.

TRICK 12



A B, 5
C D, 7

TRICK 13



A B, 6
C D, 7

C D score the odd card.

REMARKS.

By following up the positions arising out of their singleton lead in this instance, A B could have made two by card against the best play. But, either from inattention, or from the play being rendered unintelligible, by their singleton lead, they failed to grasp the situations.

By conventional play, A B make two by card, as the following analysis shows:

	A	C	B	D
1	k h†	3 h	5 h	2 h
2	3 d†	2 d	k d	4 d

A shows the ace, knave and others in trumps, with four diamonds, as his best suit, and says to his partner: "If you have the queen, give it to me; if not, the best you have, and I will finesse knave."

3	kn h	10 h	9 h†	4 h
4	ace h†	2 s	3 s	8 h
5	6 d†	ace d	8 d	10 d
6	5 c	9 c†	5 c	k c
7	6 h	5 d	kn d	q h†
8	4 s	8 s	9 s	ace s†
9	6 s	kn s	qu s	5 s†

C's finesse is justifiable. B, by negative inference, has shown clubs as his suit. The result is, however, the same, if C does not finesse.

10	7 h	3 c	qu c†	ace c
11	q d†	7 d	8 c	2 c
12	9 d†	6 c	kn c	7 c
13	7 s†	k s	10 s	10 c

A B take eight tricks, and have two by card. This is intelligible whist; the other might be termed a game at guess, or whist by conjecture.

X.

The Interest taken by Authorities in Free Press Criticism—Mr. Gurley, of Denver, Takes the Floor—He is the Father of the Four Trump Signal—He Gives Its History, and, Naturally, Tries to See Some Virtue in His "Kid"—Mr. Schwarz Says His Say on the Fad—He Agrees with the Free Press.

WE are in daily receipt of expressions of interest in and appreciation of the series of whist sketches appearing in the *Feee Press* from prominent clubs and players throughout the country, with expressions of opinions by a number of them upon mooted points. Among authoritative sources that have thus favored us, are Mr. Henry Jones, "Cavendish," of London; Mr. N. B. Trist, of New Orleans, the discoverer of the fourth best principle; Mr. Rheinart, of Milwaukee, the partner of Deschapelles; Mr. Gurley, of Denver, (who, like Rheinart with Deschapelles, is a favorite partner of Trist's); Mr. Schwarz and Mr. Herr, of Chicago, the presidents of their respective whist clubs; Mr. Orndorff, of Worcester, Mass., and a number of others. Mr. Gurley comes forward with his history of the four trump signal in plain suits, and if no one appears to dethrone him, the paternity of it will unquestionably rest with him in the records of the game. But that will not much matter. Its obituary is written, and the green sod and mossy marble are pressing it into oblivion.

We note that Mr. Gurley admits a doubt of its utility, for, if with 15 years' use of it, he is "not certain yet of its strength" there must be an element of that cast existing between it and him, which would probably take him a decade or two to reconcile with the four trump signal side. But Gurley is irrepressible and persistent, holding to what he believes a good thing like a snapper or bull dog. As Mr. Trist aptly puts it, he wonders if there are any grizzlies in the Rockies, and if Gurley in his mountain strolls has ever met them, and if so why the bears didn't establish their suit. Mr. Trist knows Gurley's bent well enough to know that grizzlies would have no show with him in a straight ahead tilt or at duplicate. Bears are conventional and Gurley first confuses them with his four signals and then destroys. We give

WHAT MR. GURLEY SAYS

and follow it with some brief commentary.

The four trump signal and its history, in so far as I am concerned, is in brief: During the year 1876 there was considerable rivalry manifested between a few of us players in this city. Particularly was this true of E. P. Jacobson and self, on one side, and my brother, (C. D. Gurley) and John L. Jerome, on the other. We had played a sort of neck and neck race for over two years, neither deriving much vantage ground. We were playing the seven point game. On the evening of the Hayes–Tilden election, in November, 1876, Jacobson and self were to meet my brother and Jerome at Jerome's house, to have a sitting. On the way up I

asked Jacobson if it did not often happen that he held four trumps and would greatly desire to play out a trump if he could feel certain that partner had four, or would be able to echo if only three strong ones—ace, kg. and small, or kg., qu-kn. He answered that was often the case, and cited many instances where the odd trick was lost by adversaries trumping in on our long and strong suit, etc., whereas, if he knew I held four trumps, he would lead them earlier. I then asked him how it would do to make the four trump signal in the following manner, viz: To play, in plain suits led by others, or partner first, next to the lowest, then next higher, and afterwards the lowest.

We agreed on this method, and played it for two or three months, ere our adversaries discovered just what we meant by such play. They noticed the deviation in the play, but did not understand it earlier. However, after those few weeks, they "got on to us" and "played our game," and up to this hour it has been played by a dozen or more of our whistites. It 1883, being a guest at the Old Buffalo, N. Y., Club, I introduced it there, and I understand that some of their strongest players adopted it, and continue it to this day. George Burrows, who visited this club three years ago, informed us that they still played the four trump signal, and brought a very high compliment back from them for me. It was on my general play, and in nowise pertained to the four trump signal.

Now *Mr. Free Press*, I am quite unprepared to say what I think of it, in face of the unblocking game.

You cannot get in the four trump signal oftener than once in say ten hands, owing, first, to not holding exactly four trumps; secondly, because your hand will not allow the play. I would not part with an honor to show partner my strength. Moreover, if I held but four small trumps I would keep the fact concealed. It is only to be used when you are quite strong, and would lead if you knew partner was *fairly* strong. Generally partner controls the opening of trumps, and he only will lead after you have shown you have four, if he has four of *strength* or four *weak* ones, making eight between you.

One can get in this signal much oftener than you would imagine, for it is not frequent. I do not place so much stress on the blocking of partner as you fellows do. Do you believe that with a first-class partner, he would block you once in 500 hands? My experience says decidedly, no; what is your experience? There is a way to throw off partner's command in almost every instance. either by leading or trashing on some suit in which you are short. Safford laid great stress on this "blocking" and "unblocking" system, and far beyond what my experience has verified is necessary. Our best players are not as yet ready to banish the four trump signal for the unblocking system.

In fact, the four trump signal is an unblocking system, for on second hand you can throw as high as you like, leaving your partner with command. Handle this as caustically as you like, *Mr. Free Press*, for you can't make the blood tingle in my veins, in the least. I like

scholarally (that's meant for scholarly) criticism. I enjoy it hugely.

'Tis possible that the signal was played in the East before we adopted it, but I had never heard of it, and in all my whist life at other places I never heard of it until Trist called my attention to an article in the London *Field*, in February, 1889, when I was in New Orleans. The article supported the play, much to my gratification, at that time, for I had put it to Trist, and he seemed undecided until he read this article. I do not think he uses it, nor have I any opinion of his upon the subject. You understand that it is not an imperative rule to show the four; it is to be shown only when you would like a trump lead if partner is fairly strong, and it is owing to this that the control of trump lead, under the four signal, rests almost exclusively with partner. In so far as the date of its birth in this locality is concerned, I can support my claim by a dozen of our most reputable citizens. I don't care a picayune about making any claim for it, however, for I am not certain yet of its strength. I do know, however, that in hundreds of instances it has given the odd trick, and I do not know as it has ever lost the trick. It is a stong point when partner has four high trumps, for he then forces you freely—a thing he would otherwise hardly start in on with only four trumps. Or, he can lead with safety if strong in other suits, or a single suit, knowing partner held four. In the absence of this information adversaries might get in one or two small trumps, partner not daring to lead from four.

Think about it and give me your conclusions. I am satisfied you are antagonistic to it at present, but a little investigation may alter your ideas considerably. I'll ask you how often have you blocked partner in the course of the past ten years? I will guarantee that you can count the times on your fingers. I am simply showing that I do not distress myself on this point, for I manage my cards more scientifically than to do it.

1. Mr. Gurley's partner "cited many instances where the odd trick was lost by adversaries trumping in on our long and strong suit, etc., whereas, if he knew I held four trumps he would would lead them earlier." An honest confession. But R. Mt. G. and his partner must learn that it is best for "he" or "him" to lead trumps as soon as it is evident that they have a "long and strong suit" and not wait for any kind of a trump signal, especially one so slow as the "four signal." People so swift as these Western hustlers usually are, should catch on "to this lively point."

2. Mr. Gurley lays too much stress upon the unblocking feature of the "plain suit echo." Unblocking is a minor point. In this order of play the value of the plain suit echo is that it enables partner to count the hands almost absolutely in the second round of the suit. The absence of the little card on the second round tells a big story—a story full of valuable information compared with which unblocking is comparatively valueless, and nobody knows this better than Mr. R. A. Gurley (R. M.)

3. The "plain suit echo" and the "four signal"

cannot co-exist; they conflict, and the play of one neutralizes the effect of the other. Like the Quaker said to the horse when he kicked himself into the buckboard: "If thee is going to get into this vehicle, I'm going to get out; we can't both ride!" This is also well known to this "Wild West" denizen, who dwells upon the fringe of elevated civilization!

4. Fathers are naturally fond of and devoted to their "kids," and we have no doubt that R. M. G. is the father of this wayward child, and it is natural that he should admiringly pat it on the head. But "'twas ever thus"—the fittest must survive. Gurley's "four trump signal" was a good thing in its day, but Mr. N. B. Trist some years ago presented the whist world with his "plain suit echo," and it must crowd Gurley's "kid" to the outside of the whist pickets.

MR. SCHWARZ, OF CHICAGO, TAKES THE FLOOR.

Theodore Schwarz, President of the Englewood Club, Chicago, and Secretary of the American Whist League, and one of the powerful players of the country, sits squarely on the "four signal." He writes the *Free Press*:

"In regard to four trump signal, I fully agree with you. I met the fad in Cincinnati some time ago, as played by Zanoni and some of the Cuvier Club members. They call it the 'Sub-Blue Peter.' They have also what they call a 'Misery Blue Peter.'

"I used the same argument there that you do in the *Free Press*, viz: That it conflicts with the 'plain suit echo.' There is another strong argument against it which did not occur to me then, and which you seem to

have overlooked. Take a club, for instance, like the Milwaukee Club, who never use the *trump signal* at all, and who are *backward* in *leading* trumps unless they have a strong hand in other suits; or the fall of the cards discloses a strong suit in partner's hand. By the time this is developed, one of the adversaries has used the four trump signal, and gets the four trumps yanked out of his hands for his pains. The four trump signal in this case is a good deal like the *player* who *echoes* to the adversaries' lead of trumps, a violation of the underlying principle of the echo."

We have used this argument of Mr. Schwarz, with others, illustrating them by examples in previous *Free Press* articles.

XI.

The Dr. Forrest Trophy to be Played for at the Next Congress—Miss Theresa Trist on the Bibliography of Whist—League Credential Cards—Committee on Permanent League Organization—Code of Laws adopted by the Congress—Opinions of the Laws.

THE Whist Congress convened for its third day's session, April 16. The members first inspected the design of a club trophy, presented by Dr. Milton H. Forrest, of the Hamilton Club, Philadelphia, to be played for at the next session of the Congress, in sets of four from each club, duplicate whist.

It is a handsome gift, designed by Bailey, Banks & Biddle, of Philadelphia, in the form of a silver bowl, about fourteen inches in height. The shank is square in form and ornamented with the figures of the four kings chased in relief.

The bowl is ornamented with chased figures, and the base with four aces in relief.

It will prove the object of an interesting contest.

The Congress acted upon and incorporated into its proceedings an article by Miss Theresa West, on the bibliography of whist, and the list of publications on whist literature in the Milwaukee Public Library. It comprises about eighty-five publications, and is valuable for reference. A vote of thanks was extended to Miss West for the interest taken by her in the game and in the Congress.

A committee, through a motion of Mr. Gurley, of Denver, was appointed to prepare a credential card of certification to delegates in attendance upon the first Whist Congress, as a voucher, indorsing them as entitled to the courtesies of any club in the country.

Through a motion of Mr. Barney, of Providence, R. I., a committee was appointed to adopt some basis of organization for future congresses by forming a league of all American whist clubs, and clubs in which whist is played.

The afternoon session was given to a tournament after I. C. Orndorff's method of duplicate, of Worcester, Mass. (which we shall report in a special paper), and to the report of the Committee on Rules.

This committee had a perplexing and by no means an easy task. They took as their base the "Club Code." These rules are the outcrop of laws and decisions made to suit the English conduct of the game. They bear the marks of discussions that have arisen over "fine points" from time to time. They are cumbersome and not in harmony with the trend of American whist to-day.

The committee changed some sections of this code, and eliminated other sections. Its more prominent recommendations were that the game should consist of seven points, the trump be turned from the live pack, and that the trivial law be stricken out which allows the player to ask a partner, who renounces, if he have no more of the suit.

The code of laws, as recommended by the committee,

was adopted by the Congress, and as we state, the laws, as a whole, are not in harmony with the American game of Long Whist.

They are longer by half than necessary, are not free from inconsistencies, and are also ambiguous.

In our opinion they are in the main unfitted to the American game of seven points and no honors count.

A code of laws, concise and simple, would meet the requirements of our game.

A law unaccompanied by a penalty is valueless. The laws of long whist are necessarily few—at the most, twenty in number.

To each law a definite and absolute penalty should be affixed, and for the violator of the law the penalty should invariably be enforced. All penalties should be in points, like the penalty for a revoke.

All such penalties as require the offender to play his highest or lowest card of the suit, or to lead from another suit called upon, or force him to trump or not to trump a trick, &c., &c., are, in our opinion, objectionable, and the enforcing of this class of penalties disturbs or destroys the scientific play of the combinations.

In lieu of these complicated and unpracticable modes of exacting penalties, the substitution of the simple and effective penalty of a point for each violation, to be enforced after the play of the hand, would go far toward reforming breaches of this character.

A player who violates the law should not, by any possibility, escape the penalty.

Note No. 40 of the code: "If a player called on to lead a suit have none of it, the penalty is paid."

This is not strictly true. The penalty is not paid. It simply cannot be enforced, and the player may in such situations violate the law without fear of punishment, or, at least, with the hope of escaping it.

Law 61—"No conversation shall be indulged in during the play of a hand, etc." But suppose a player does "indulge," what of it? There is no penalty attached.

Law 59—"When a trick has been turned and quitted, it cannot again be seen until after the hand has been played." What happens if a player violates this law?

You cannot compel a player to follow suit, or abstain from conversation, or from looking at his last trick, but you can enforce a penalty for the violation of these laws, and thereby abate the class of violations that usually occur from inattention and carelessness.

Our comments are not prompted by a spirit of fault finding criticism.

The session of the Congress was necessarily too brief, the subjects before it too comprehensive, and the time of the committees too limited to reach finalities that the whist world conld unite upon without exceptions.

The proceedings of the Congress were tentative, as they were designed to be, and its prevailing motive was that its action should have the benefit of a year's digestion by thinking whist players.

Note.—The foregoing, when it appeared in the *Free Press*, was interpreted, and so used from some quarters as a criticism

hostile to the Congress. The spirit of the article, nor that of the articles which preceded it, does not justify such construction. It is no more than our opinion of the penal section of the code, and of those laws which apply to infringements, but have no penalties attached. It further applies to their application to long whist, or where each hand is played out for all there is in its combinations. It did not seem to us to be the design of the First Congress, nor was it practicable for it, to reconcile the varying practices of clubs in their conduct of the game. Such an endeavor would have brought about an endless discussion, and no satisfactory conclusions. If the suggestions in this article, or in any of these articles, have value, the League will take action upon them at the proper time.

XII.

Duplicate After the Orndorff System—Messrs. Jenkins, Hamilton, Fiske and Parry, of the Visitors, Against Paine, Hall, Northrop and Comstock, of the Milwaukee Club—The Visitors Win.

ONE of the most notable events of the Congress was the duplicate whist contest, which took place on Thursday afternoon and evening, April 16, between a quartette of visitors, and a picked team of the Milwaukee club.

The contest was conducted by Mr. T. C. Orndorff, of the Commonwealth Club, of Worcester, Mass., and his system of duplicate whist was used. Mr. Orndorff's system was given a fair test, and it was a great success. It is, in our opinion, the best method yet devised for playing duplicate whist in teams of four against four. By this method a record of the play is preserved and each player of each team plays an equal number of hands with each player of his own team as a partner. In this way the relative strength of the contesting teams is shown by the total number of points scored. The strength of the players as pairs, is made evident, as is also the individual rank of the contestants.

The result of this contest carried with it a peculiar significance, as it was a contest between different systems of play, the Milwaukeeans adopting the old English or "Cavendish" order of leads and follow, and the visi-

tors playing strictly the American game. As a spectator facetiously remarked, "It is 'G. W. P.' versus Cavendish."

In justice to the visitors, it must be said that they were at a great disadvantage from the fact that they were strangers to each other, and consequently unfamiliar with the style and quality of the play, and peculiarities of their partners, while on the other hand the Milwaukeeans were perfectly familiar with their partner's play. This advantage is more marked among players who do not adhere very closely to the recognized conventionalities, and the Milwaukee whist fiends do not have a very reverential respect for the books. They are independent fellows, these same Milwaukeeans, and delight in doing as they please, but don't hug the delusion that they do not play heady whist, and that your path to easy victory is strewn with roses, for you'll lay over for the next train if you do.

The cards were pre-arranged, and every hand contained a problem—that is, there was an opportunity for a bright stroke of play in almost every hand. There were twenty-four hands and the over-play, making in all forty-eight deals; consequently, the total number of points possible was 624. The result of the match—after four hours' play—was that the visitors scored 314, to the Milwaukeeans 310, the visitors winning by four points.

The Milwaukee Club was ably represented by four of their strongest players—Messrs. C. M. Paine, president of the club, George W. Hall, H. M. Northrop and

E. G. Comstock. The four visitors were Messrs Jenkins, of the Deschapelles Club, Boston; C. D. P. Hamilton, of the Pomfret Club, Easton, Pa., and Messrs. Fiske and Parry, of Chicago.

The close result of this contest is conclusive proof that it will not do for any team of players, however strong, to underrate the quality of play of these Milwaukeeans. If you monkey with the average Milwaukee whist player's buzz saw, you will be likened unto the inquisitive Celt who tickled the rear of an innocent looking mule to find out if he would or could kick. He found out, without any addition to his personal attractiveness, and he was heard to remark when he regained consciousness that "I know a blamed sight more than I did before." If you anticipate a visit to Milwaukee carry with you the moral of this little story. It may save you a deal of awkward explanation.

Since preparing the foregoing, Mr. Orndorff, of Worcester, has written us of the match played according to his system of duplicate, and we take the liberty to publish his reference to it. He says:

"I have looked over the score sheets carefully of the twenty-four hands played in Milwaukee, in which Mr. Hamilton took part, and have made a complete copy of them and put them in book form, which I shall mail to the Milwaukee Club, as they were most desirous to see a complete record of one of their matches (a thing they never had). Please say to Mr. Hamilton that in reading over the scores, the play of one hand demonstrates the fact that his team won one more trick than the first table, so that the actual score stands 314 to 310

in favor of Mr. Hamilton's teams. This simply proves what I said to Mr. Hamilton during the play of the hands, 'that the score sheets will show who won the tricks, even if the scorers should make an error in placing the number of tricks won at the end of the hand.'"

XIII.

Banquet at the Plankington House—Two Hundred Whist Fiends Assembled—Speeches by Presidents Paine and Elliott, Dr. Dorland, Commissioner Safford, the Irrepressible Rocky Mountain Gurley, Captain Walton, W. W. Wight, R. F. Foster, and the Rev. Judge Gilson.

THE banquet given by the Milwaukee Club to their guests on the evening of April 16, at the Plankington House, comprised a notable gathering of distinguished men. It is perhaps as appropriate a place as any in these sketches, to refer, in a general way, to their "composite picture," as President Elliott would term it.

Most of the delegates who travelled with trunks were in sprig tail uniform, but this did not detract from the effect of the "composite." They would have looked like those born to rule, in the full dress of equatorial Africa.

There were hard upon 200 whist fiends lined up at the beautifully appointed tables, and the best opportunity was afforded to see them as a body, and, as we have indicated, it is exceptional to see as intellectual and distinguished a body of men gathered at any convention.

Numerically, the professions of law and medicine were more largely represented, and railroad officials, bankers and business men made up the remainder of the quota. No such body of men ever came together for a more disinterested purpose than gathered under the ban-

ner of the "First American Whist Congress." There were no axes to grind, no personal aims to subserve, and if there had been they would have sunk in the Congress with the alacrity of lead in water. The Congress was a body of gentlemen from all sections of the country, drawn to Milwaukee by a lodestone that had for its virtue but an unselfish devotion to the interests of whist. Cliques, convention-strategy, and wire pulling, were foreign to its spirit. It was stronger in ability than political, and more disinterested in motive than ecclesiastical conventions.

President Paine was master-of-ceremonies at the banquet. On either side of him were seated the Hamilton and Pomfret Club delegates.

Eugene S. Elliott responded to the first toast—"The First American Whist Congress"—and he made a brilliant and concise address on the history of the Congress and whist, seasoned with delightful humor. His genial nature radiated upon his brother fiends like the sweet influences of a meadow clover field in June.

Dr. Dorland, of Chicago, discoursed on the "President of the United States" in a way that Mr. Harrison would be pleased with, and at its close, Mr. Gurley, of Denver, moved that the President be corraled for the next banquet.

Mr. Safford, the Attorney of the Inter-State Commissioners of Washington, D. C., discussed "Our Guests" in his genial, appreciative way—a way that was fertile of merriment for its subjects.

The irrepressible Rocky Mountain Gurley followed

upon the same subject, and his epigramatic sentences were electric and full of ozone. (The compositor will probably set this up "benzine," if he be not watched, and this would be a libel on Gurley and his stirring speech.)

Mr. Gurley also stole a march on Mr. Kimball, of the Hamilton Club, and was the sponsor of the Congress in thanking the ladies of Milwaukee for the use of their beautiful athenæum for the session of the Congress.

Captain Walton, the veteran army officer, of Philadelphia, also brought in a postscript on "Our Guests" in a terse, effective, witty style, which kept the table in a roar.

W. W. Wight, when he was telling the delegates, in his bright way, what he knew about Milwaukee, didn't look a bit like one of that clique of fiends who sat with Rheinart, and who, with Dick Allen, the Rev. Judge Gilson, Comstock and Chandler, by their lead of singletons and other infinite versatilities, buried Easton, Philadelphia and Minneapolis, respectively 33, 20 and 39 fathoms deep, to say nothing of the Gurley Rocky Mountain invincibles, 34 fathoms,) in the tourney of Milwaukee against all America.

R. F. Foster, of New York, the indefatigable secretary of the Congress, brought the banqueters down to gravity and attention by his serious and very interesting history of "A Pack of Cards," with their numerous peculiarities.

The Rev. Judge Frank Gilson, himself the prince of cranks, is credited with the brightest after-dinner speech

ever made in Milwaukee. We cannot answer for this in Milwaukee's brilliant coterie, including the Rev. Judge himself, but what he essayed on "Whist Cranks," was in turn humorous and pathetic, and at all times eloquent. His idea of a true crank was a man who would rather play his hand properly than be President, and his ideal he who would not find the six months' polar day too long for his favorite game.

President Elliott closed his remarks with the hope that his brother whistites would play their game of life so well that when the Angel of Death gave the dread trump signal they would be ready to sound the echo with the promptness of veterans.

The Rev. Judge Gilson used this in his speech, cleverly countering on it by saying there was no echo to the last trump signal.

In comparison with most other conventions at banquets, it was noteworthy testimony to the composition of the Whist Congress, that, with all the vats of the great breweries of Milwaukee, and the vineyards of sunny France to boot at its beck, not one of its members became, even in the slightest degree, exhilerated.

XIV.

Closing Proceedings of the Congress—Commissioner Safford's Resolution on Stakes—Permanent Organization of the League—Election of Trist and "Cavendish" as Honorary Members—Resolutions of Respect to the Milwaukee Club, President Elliott, Stenographer Goodwin and Secretary R. F. Foster—Adjournment.

MR. A. G. SAFFORD, of the United States Inter-State Commission, of Washington, D. C., and representing the several clubs in that city, of which he is a member, introduced a resolution which voiced the sentiment of the whist world to a main extent, namely that it was a game containing within itself resources of intellectual recreation that are not dependent upon stakes or wagers to add zest to it. Outside of the moral phase of the question, this is the fact, and real lovers of the game do not require a stake, however insignificant or otherwise, to increase the stimulus. Its own infinite resources are ample in themselves, and a money consideration detracts from the higher order of its pursuit.

The custom of placing a stake, generally the small one of a shilling a corner, is an old English one, and it is followed, but to a limited extent, in this country, in general clubs. But in clubs organized for and devoted mainly to whist, the practice is usually not allowed.

Mr. Safford's resolution is as follows:

Resolved, That the First American Whist Congress, while it does not assume to dictate to the players of the

game of whist whether or not such players shall lay wagers upon the result of the game, hereby declares itself to be of the opinion that betting on the result of the game by players or outsiders is contrary to good morals, tends to injure the game and to deteriorate the style of the play.

The resolution was adopted.

We could comment upon several aspects of stakes in connection with whist, but it is not necessary. The resolution covers the pith of the reasons. The practice is exceptional with the lovers of the higher order of whist, and the less skillful have no difficulty in finding games more congenial for the purpose than with a game where the unskillful are at a disadvantage precisely in ratio to the measure of their weakness against strength.

Whist, thus, is naturally lifted out of the list of games that tempt to wagers, into a dignity that has rewards compared to which gold is but dross.

The last day of the Congress, Friday, April 17, was occupied mainly with permanent organization.

Chairman Barney's report (of the Narragansett Club) was unanimously adopted. It was substantially as follows:

That the organization shall be known as "The American Whist League."

That clubs represented at the Congress that shall adopt, as a standard of play, the code of laws adopted by the Congress, and assent to the constitution, shall constitute the charter members of the league.

Any reputable whist club, by doing likewise, may,

with the approval of the Executive Committee, become a member of the league.

The annual assessment of each club belonging to the league shall be $5.

The remainder of the constitution designates the duties of the officers, and provides that a meeting of the league shall be held annually; that its officers shall hold office for one year; that a club belonging to the league shall send as many delegates as it desires, but no person shall represent more than one club; and that propositions to amend the code of laws, or the constitution, must be approved by two-thirds of the clubs constituting the league.

Mr. Barney moved that Mr. Nicholas Browse Trist, of New Orleans, be elected an honorary member of the League, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Foster, of New York, then proposed Mr. Henry Jones, "Cavendish," as an honorary member of the league. The esteem felt for the distinguished English whist authority in this country was marked by his unanimous election by a rising vote.

Recognition was made of the stenographer's (Prof. Henry Goodwin) efficient work by an unanimous vote of thanks. Prof. Goodwin worked all day at the sessions of the congress, and then assisted in their work at night during the evenings and as late as 3 o'clock in the morning. Without his aid it would have been impracticable for the committees to have finished the duties before them in the limited time at their disposal.

Resolutions submitted by Mr. Gurley, of Denver,

were cordially received and passed with enthusiasm. These were in recognition of the disinterested zeal of the Milwaukee Club for what they had accomplished toward uniting the whist clubs of the country into one common body, and in its emphatic success in promoting the substantial interests of the gentleman's royal game.

Recognition was made in addition to the club hospitalities, to the personal courtesy and generous attentions of the entire membership of the Milwaukee Club to the delegates.

Special thanks were awarded to Eugene S. Elliott for the high dignity and diplomatic and entirely unbiased manner in which he presided over the deliberations of the congress, and to the secretary, R. F. Foster, for the great interest he manifested in its success.

The Dr. Forrest trophy (previously described in these notes) was then discussed. It was decided that the league should contest for the prize, and by teams of four. The details for the contest were left for the Executive Committee to arrange.

After some further transactions of routine details the congress adjourned with three cheers for The First American Whist Congress.

XV.

After the Adjournment—The City of Milwaukee—Its Homes and Industries—Pabst's Great Brewing Plant —No Fiends in Sight but Presidents Elliot and Paine.

THE affairs of the congress and incidental contests in the interval of its sessions, so occupied the strangers within the gates of Wisconsin's capital city that no time whatever was diverted to sight-seeing. The fiends clung to their whist and when Friday night saw the close of the congress, they left for their homes on Saturday.

The Easton delegates, however, took a drive about the beautiful city before leaving it. Milwaukee, like other important cities of the West, has its lake standpoint of picturesque effect and its Lake Side park. The stranger will note also the cheerful appearance of the residences and buildings, due to the soft creamy colors of their local bricks. The city was located as a trading post by a Frenchman, (Solomon Junean,) but its trend has been distinctly German, and three-fourths of its 210,000 population is of German derivation. Though Milwaukee has the best harbor in the lake system, with exceptional railroad facilities, its superior advantages as a manufacturing and business centre have been less advertised than those of any point of like consequence in the West. Notwithstanding this, its manufacturing industries aggregate about $35,000,000 annually, and it

is one of the foremost manufacturing cities of the West.

Its chief product is, of course, its superior whist fiends, who will stand off the earth in that department.

Its brewing interests follow for about $10,000,000 annual production, its leather tanning about $5,000,000, its iron manufacture about $4,000,000, its meat packing industry is important, and its mills have a capacity of about 6,000 barrels of flour daily.

Milwaukee has been made known more by its famous beer, which reaches all the world's markets, than through any other source; but there has been a recent organized association to advertise its advantages as a manufacturing standpoint and business center. It has unrivalled resources of location and transportation for these purposes, and, enterprising and prosperous as the city is, it has a greater future ahead of it.

All sight-seers in Milwaukee naturally include its great brewery, and we were no exception. Our visit to the Pabst Brewing Company's plant was necessarily a brief one, yet it did not prevent the noting of the prominent features of the gigantic establishment whose property and product constitute the largest brewing industry in the world. The company's buildings cover ten acres, its floor space about thirty five acres. Its power is furnished by a 600-horse power Corliss engine. Its ice machines produce the equivalent in cold of 146,000 tons of ice a year. This is conveyed to its required channels by 175 miles of pipe.

The consumption of material for the current year of 1890 was $1\frac{1}{4}$ million bushels of malt, $2\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds

of rice, 820,000 pounds of hops and 26,000 tons of coal.

The annual cooperage is about 1,900,000 packages of various sizes. Its glass packages cover 15,000,000 bottles and 16,000,000 corks. The latter cost $80,000.

The number of emyloyes at the main plant is about fifteen hundred, of which three hundred are women.

The sales during the year were 653,265 barrels. The full capacity of the brewery is 1,500,000 barrels a year.

Fifteen million bottles of the beer were shipped to all parts of the civilized world. In foreign districts it is crowding the British brews hard for first place.

Its great vats average about a thousand barrels each.

Forty-five barrels a day are consumed by the employes. They average about thirty-three glasses per day to a man. His average life is sixty-six years.

The brewery is equipped with all of the advanced scientific appliances to insure a perfect product. The methods of handling (direct through an underground pipe line from the storage cellars to the bottling department) to prevent the escape of carbonic acid gas and preserve the life of the beer are interesting and effective. The high and uniform standard of the beer, its absolute purity and fine flavor are the qualities that have won for it its substantial reputation. Apart from its use as a beverage, it has established for itself a trade from a sanitary standpoint, as a tonic, that forms no small part of its business. Physicians prescribe it with confidence in its uniform quality and purity.

Another extensive Milwaukee brewing plant is

Schlitz's, who also have a large branch in Minneapolis.

It has not been the purpose in these sketches to deviate much from subjects akin to whist, but it is due to the home of this strong association of whist players to refer, if but incidentally, to the enterprise and substantial character of its citizens, and to the many advantages their city possesses to induce judicious capitalists to establish industrial enterprises there.

The character of Milwaukee's water and railroad advantages compared with those of other western cities, mark that her true growth is yet before it.

We left its hospitalities with regret at eleven o'clock, A. M., on the 18th of April, 1891, and the only whist fiends in sight were the two presidents, Eugene S. Elliot and Cassius M. Paine.

CAVENDISH'S LATEST.

AMERICAN LEADS SIMPLIFIED.—SOMETHING FOR WHIST PLAYERS TO READ.

MR. HENRY JONES, "Cavendish," has sent us his latest publication, "Whist—American Leads Simplified," published by De LaRue & Co., London.

In his introduction, "Cavendish" says:

"American Leads have now (1891) been subjected to the consideration of whist players for about 8 years. At present two systems of leading are current. This state of affairs cannot be regarded as satisfactory, and it appears to the author that the time will soon arrive when one system must be adopted to the exclusion of the other.

"The following simple scheme of leading from high cards is submitted to the whist players of the day for opinion and criticism.

"Detailed arguments in its favor will be found in 'Whist Developments' 4th ed.

"On the first appearance of American Leads, instructions were given, in some cases, as to the card to lead on the third round of a suit, in order to complete the information as to the combination led from.

"The object now aimed at is to convey all the required information on the first and second rounds of a suit.

"The points respecting which the third hand has to be informed are two:

"1. The nature of the combination led from.

"2. The number of cards led from."

We reprint Cavendish's introductory in full because

it states his subject and motive simply and clearly. With his usual policy and tact he submits his scheme to the "Whist players of the day for opinion and criticism."

Cavendish is fully aware that whist is a scientific pursuit, and his perception of which is or is not a better method is as acute as anyone's, and while he may be absolute in his conviction as to what constitutes the better method, he recognizes that whist is a pursuit of relaxation, not of business, and that its intellectual devotees are not like schoolboys, to be whipped into line by "Authority." Authorities are not infallible, and not beyond gaining light through amicable discussion. But when their light is the true light they can more successfully work for its adoption through modesty than arrogance. The better light is by no means the only light, and some old-fashioned people will stand by gas rather than have electricity crammed down their throats. And so it is with advanced whist system.

"Cavendish" in the present work gives the American system of leads in a concise and clear form, made clearer by whist type diagrams of each combination discussed.

We shall not go into the details of these leads, as their principles are well known to advanced players. Their base is, as original leads, the ace, the queen and the knave are made to designate five or more in suit, (with the combinations stated that are exceptions), and the second lead gives further testimony of the quality of the combination and numerical value of the suit.

The king is relegated to his position of showing not

more than four in suit, one of his retinue being the ace or queen Ten led originally, shows king, knave, with one or more small cards (including the nine as a small card).

Nine led originally, shows ace, queen, ten; or ace, knave, ten, four cards in suit. In case the nine is led originally, or any other lower card, it is the fourth best.

The foregoing is what "American Leads Simplified" embodies.

The system is in line with Trist and Ames, but differs from "G. W. P." mainly in the nine lead in the two above-named combinations, "G. W. P.'s" special lead of the nine requiring them to be opened with the ace.

There is no material difference in American whist principles. Neither is the difference in the systems of leads practiced material.

The trend of American whist practice is to simplify the system and leads.

"Cavendish" is recognized as a cosmopolitan authority on whist. In America, his several works on the subject are accepted as authority. The recent First American Whist Congress recommended "Cavendish's" 18th appendix as a system of leads.

His present little work and table of American leads will therefore be regarded as "official."

In closing, Cavendish says: "The mode of leading here set forth is recommended to the consideration of advanced players, assuming always that the leader's partner is himself an advanced player.

"It is further assumed that the lead is original, and that the original leader always opens his strongest suit."

We recommend Brother "Stanhope," who criticised, in the July number of *Whist*, the *Free Press* criticism of the original lead of a "sneak" in the Rheinart–Wight, Hamilton–Boutcher game, at Milwaukee, to ponder over this last paragraph of Cavendish, and see if he does not cipher out that the spirit of the American system, as interpreted by Cavendish, is based on the integrity of the original lead showing the strongest suit.

"American Leads Simplified" is on sale at Brentano's, Union Square, New York.

Life is a game of whist. From unseen sources
The cards are shuffled and the hands are dealt,
Blind are our efforts to control the forces
That, though unseen, are no less strongly felt.

WHIST SKETCHES

PART SECOND

Sketches of the Clubs attending The First American Whist Congress and of their Leading Players. The Whist Lives of "Cavendish" and N. B. Trist. Reminiscences of James Clay, etc.

NICHOLAS BROWSE TRIST.

I.

NICHOLAS BROWSE TRIST.

Sketch of his Life and Whist Career—His Little Squad of Good Players, L. A. Bringier, his Brother, N. P. Trist, W. J. Hare and J. M. Kennedy—His Association with "Cavendish"—The American Leads Episode—Trist's Club—Its Tournament Play—The Origin of Duplicate Whist—First Played in America by Trist Ten Years Ago—By "Cavendish" Thirty-Four Years Ago—"Cavendish's" Record of it—Trist Defines a First Rank Player—One of Trist's End Plays.—The New Orleans Chess, Checker and Whist Club—Trist's Whist Associates—Trist's Personality and an Estimate of his Whist Temperament and Aptitudes.

NICHOLAS BROWSE TRIST was born in 1835 in the State of Louisiana on one of the sugar plantations of his maternal grandfather. His father's family happened to settle in Louisiana from the fact that his grandfather (the only child of an English officer who came to America with his regiment before the revolutionary war, was captured by a Philadelphia girl and settled in this country) was appointed first collector of the port of New Orleans by President Jefferson when Louisiana was purchased from France. His eldest son, Trist's father's only brother, who married Jefferson's granddaughter, is not entirely unknown in the history of the United States, having negotiated the

treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo with Mexico after the war with that country.

Trist was educated in this country and in Germany, and was admitted to the Louisiana bar in 1859. He still practices his profession in New Orleans, but he gives his main attention to the notarial business, which, under the civil law prevailing in that State, is very different as regards its nature—which is complicated—and its responsibilities—which are great—from that sort of business in the common law States. Trist is one who persists that his whist life has not been an eventful one from the fact that there are no rival whist clubs in his city against which to measure skill in friendly contests, and because he has not had the chance to play whist out of New Orleans with friends of recognized force. From his standpoint, this may apply to an extent to his mere personal practice of the game. But in its broader sense it can have no bearing, as his contributions to the development of correct whist principles, and his influence on whist practice, give his name first place in the whist history of this generation in America.

Over twenty years ago Trist noted the faulty, careless way in which whist was played in his city, and saw how its resources were unobserved and squandered, and he procured the best whist literature of that day and prevailed on some of his friends to learn scientific whist with him. They did not have the opportunity to play regularly, but nevertheless turned out a little squad of good players, among them L. A. Bringier, a maternal

uncle of Trists, N. P. Trist, his brother, W. J. Hare and J. M. Kennedy, all native Louisianians. They were both good players and good company, and their whist sittings were a source of great enjoyment. They are scattered now, seeking better pastures in other States, but their names are well-known on the list of higher rank whist players.

About ten years ago Trist began a correspondence with "Cavendish," which has been kept up ever since with but little intermission, which has proved a source of mutual pleasure and profit, and the world has had the benefit of odd bits of it through the press. During this period Trist has contributed considerable interesting matter in the form of illustrated whist hands and articles on current whist topics to the London *Field*.

The American Leads episode he gave to the world in *Harper's Magazine* of March, 1891.

He evolves the history of the fourth-best rule, with the discussion of it between him and Cavendish.

It is one of the most important and interesting papers on whist yet published in America.

From his fourth-best principle Mr. Trist formulates the rules for American Leads as follows:

"1. When you open a strong suit with a *low card*, *lead the fourth-best.*

"2. When you open a strong suit with a *high card*, and next lead a *low card*, lead the *original fourth-best*, *ignoring in the count any high card marked in your hand.*

"3. When you remain with two *high indifferent cards*, lead the higher, if you opened a *suit of four; the lower*, if you opened a *suit of more than four.*"

As that part of rule 2 which calls for the lead of the *fifth-best* when a strong suit is opened with a high card, and the next lead is a low card, is not generally known to followers of the fourth-best rule, we quote Mr. Trist's comments upon it from his paper in *Harper's:*

"The king being no longer led from more than four cards, we may take suits headed by the ace as the type of the long suit opened from the top, because it is the one most frequently held.

"Now, in dropping from the ace to the original fourth-best there always remains in the leader's hands two cards intermediate in value between the ones led to the first and second rounds; therefore, in order to obtain analagous results in the opening of the king, queen, more than four suits, the queen should be followed with the original fourth-best, *ignoring the king* in the count, because it is marked in leader's hand by the nature of the lead.

EXAMPLE.

Not Counted.	First Lead.	Second Lead.				
From kg.	qu.	8,	6	5		
From kg.	qu.	8,	6	5	3.	
From kg.	qu.	8,	6	5	3,	2.

"Hence Rule 2 is herein formulated so as to be general in its application; heretofore it has been given without the last clause."

Trist's club (The Chess, Checker and Whist Club of New Orleans) appropriates every year a certain sum for prizes for whist tournaments. He has taken part in eight of these tournaments and his partners and himself have been prize-winners in seven.

The result of the tournament of 1882, in which Kennedy and Hare captured the first prize and Bringier

and Trist the second, gave rise, probably, to the first duplicate contest ever played in this country. It came to pass in this way. The defeated contestants kept hinting that "big luck" had been the main cause of the winners' success. The four named winners, however, were confident that luck was not the controlling reason of their victories, and that their play would beat the play of any team which could be found in the club.

Trist had read in Cavendish's Card Essays about an experiment of the overplay of hands and he suggested to his three friends to challenge any four members of the club to play, for a prize, twenty-four hands, which were to be overplayed. The challenge offered the odds of eight points; each side to be credited with all tricks made by it. The challenge was posted, but excepted therefrom two strong players on account of the odds.

It was accepted and the match was played in July of that year with the following result:

Trist's team scored ....321 tricks.
The opponents scored ....303 tricks.

The result showed pretty clearly to those who had charged their previous shortage to a bad run of cards, that it was due to the character of play they encountered, and not to big luck or bad luck on one side or the other.

So far as any reports show, the above contest nine years ago in New Orleans is the first appearance of duplicate whist in America.

The accompanying extract from "Cavendish's Card Essays" is the article Mr. Trist refers to as the one that suggested the idea of duplicate whist to him:

"In the latter part of the winter of 1857, during an after-dinner conversation, it was remarked by some of the party that whist is a mere matter of chance, since no amount of ingenuity can make a king win an ace, and so on.

"This produced an argument as to the merits of the game; and as two of the disputants obstinately maintained the original position, it was proposed to test their powers by matching them against two excellent players in the room.

"To this match, strange to say, the bad players agreed, and a date was fixed.

"Before the day arrived it was proposed to play the match in double, another rubber of two good against two bad players being formed in an adjoining room and the hands being played over again, the good players having the cards previously held by the bad ones and *vice versa*, the order of the play being, of course, in every other respect preserved.

"The difficulty now was to find two players sufficiciently bad for the purpose; but two men were found, on condition of having odds laid them at starting, which was accordingly done.

"On the appointed day a table was formed in room A, and as soon as the first hand was played the cards were re-sorted and conveyed into Room B. There the hand was played over again, the good players in Room B having the cards that the bad players had in Room A. At the end of the hand the result was noted for comparison, independently of the score, which was conducted in the usual way. Thirty-three hands were played in each room. In room A the good players held very good cards and won four rubbers out of six; in points, a balance of eighteen. In Room B the good players had, of course, the bad cards. They played seven rubbers with the same number of hands that in

the other room had played six and they won three out of the seven, losing seven points on the balance. The difference, therefore, was eleven points, or nearly one point a rubber in favor of skill.

"A comparison of tricks only, showed some curious results. In seven of the hands the score by cards in each room was the same. In eighteen hands the balance of the score by cards was in favor of the superior players; in eight hands in favor of the inferior. In one of these hands the bad players won two by cards at one table and three by cards at the other.

"The most important result is that at both tables the superior players gained a majority of tricks. In Room A they won on the balance nineteen by tricks; in Room B they won two by tricks.

"It will be observed that this experiment does not altogether eliminate luck, as bad play sometimes succeeds. But by far the greater part of luck, viz: that due to the superiority of winning cards, is by the plan described quite got rid of."

From December, 1889, to September, 1890, Mr. Trist edited the whist column of the *Spirit of the South*, now defunct.

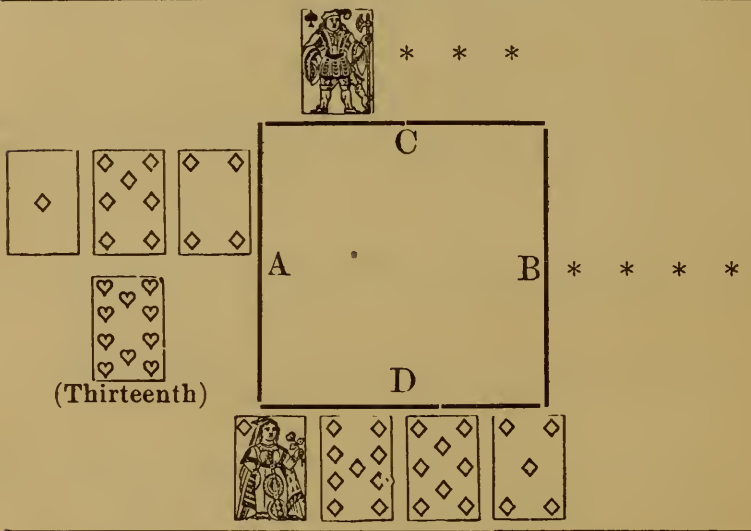
Mr. Trist is wont to say he hopes he did not help to kill it.

In his conversations on whist Trist, while he does not deny that he knows something of the theory of the game, he will not allow that he is a player of the first rank. He says, that as in chess, the number of players of first rank is confined to narrow limits. He defines a first-rate player as one that must have an *abnormally* retentive memory; be able to draw inferences correctly and quickly, and then have the judgment necessary to

make proper use of the real position of the cards as determined by the exercise of the above faculties; or play, on their assumed position when playing to the score.

Mr. Trist says he has had occasionally the opportunity to play the "grand coup," and that every attentive player can do it, only this position does not occur often.

The following is one of Trist's "end plays" which has been preserved. It is a tenace position that not infrequently occurs in one form or another and is mostly sacrificed by inattentive players, but Trist is not given to that heedless sort of whist perception:



C and B are "not in it," being exhausted of trumps —diamonds.

C led knave of spades.

D trumped with the 8.

A played 10 of hearts.

D led queen of diamonds.

A played 4 of diamonds, thus remaining with the tenace and making two tricks.

Trist's club, "The New Orleans Chess, Checkers and Whist Club," was organized in July, 1880, with about 30 members, and incorporated on the 13th of February, 1882.

The only games then allowed were those named in the title of the club and no money stakes were allowed. The dues were seventy-five cents per month, in after years raised to one dollar.

From its small beginning the club has grown into its present full membership of seven hundred, with over two hundred applicants registered. In 1887 the club house was totally destroyed by fire, but it was rebuilt in much finer style and the dues raised to $20.00 per annum, a small sum for all the comforts afforded. The barrier was also removed from playing for money considerations, but the governing committee restricted stakes to narrow limits, twenty-five cents a point being the maximum allowed for whist.

With its large membership the club lost its distinctive features as a chess and whist club.

Its seven hundred members includes now but about forty whist players, and of these only about one-half play the game habitually. This little circle of strong players adopts Cavendish as its authority, and it is giving a voice to some of the Milwaukee rules.

Mr. Trist considers his election as honorary member of the Whist League the crowning event of his whist career.

Probably no whist club of this country or the old world ever boasted of a more formidable "quartette" of whist players than the New Orleans Whist Club did in its palmy days, when N. B. Trist, L. A. Bringier, J. M. Kennedy and W. J. Hare composed its leading whist members.

Mr. Trist is the only one of this number now left, all the others having gone to new fields to cast their fortunes therein.

Mr. Kennedy was the last to leave New Orleans, having removed to Spokane Falls in the summer of 1889.

It was with feelings of mingled regret that Mr. Trist saw the last one of his life-long partners bid adieu to the land of his nativity, and since then he enters the club with less buoyancy of spirit than in the halcyon days when he could count on the game being played in all its completeness. With Kennedy as his partner he felt that no salient point of the game would be over-looked. The long years of play together made them almost invincible, as the records of the club show.

Mr. Trist places Kennedy in the very front ranks of whist adepts. He has a dash of brilliancy in the manipulation of his hand that elicits the admiration of adversaries and on-lookers alike. He plays with the greatest rapidity, rarely, if ever, loses the run of even the smallest card, and when the last few cards fall, adversaries are made to feel the great strength of his generalship.

Mr. Kennedy is a gentleman of the highest type of culture, remarkably social, affable and courteous. For

many years he held the cashiership of the Custom House at New Orleans under President Cleveland. When the political tide turned in favor of Republicanism he made way for his successor and cast his fortune in the far north-west. Whether or not he still gives an idle hour to his old pastime is unknown.

There is a strong desire expressed among the members of The American Whist League, that at the next annual meeting Mr. Trist and Mr. Kennedy will join forces against the most formidable players present and give an illustration of their strength. Their presence would have a highly stimulating effect upon the League and its permanent success, and it is to be hoped that they will arrange to meet at its next session.

Mr. Trist participates in his favorite pastime for something beyond the hour of pleasure it affords. He makes the game a serious study, penetrating its hidden mysteries in a careful, analytical manner, and after he has finished his scientific diagnosis, gives to the world the result of his observations in the way of a certain formula as a guide to the game. His "American Leads," play of "fourth-best," etc., is the result of long research and will be accepted by the deep-thinking players both of this and the old world. He never forms hasty conclusions but makes a study of what he places before the whist public, which has given his methods of play such wide favor.

At the game he is deliberate, cautious and observant. His deliberativeness does not take the form of slowness, and no one who has been fortunate enough to sit at the

table with him accuses him of immoderate delay. He grasps the situation of the cards, based on the previous fall, frames, as it were, a photographic picture of what is left, and if there is a grand coup, a skilled finesse, or a deceptive strategic flanking of the enemy left in the hand, his partner can rest assured that the opportunity will not pass him by unheeded.

Often during play, some of these "whist gems" are brought out by him, and he gives to each a brilliant finish that marks well the resourceful strength at his command.

He never shows excitability and restlessness during play, no matter how deliberate partner or adversary may be in forming his opinion as to the proper card to play. He sits at the table in a philosophizing manner, studying the possibilities of the hand before him, and his calm, dignified bearing under every exigency arising, could be emulated with profit by all who indulge in this pastime.

No loud rapping of the table when the cards are played, no boisterous talk, nothing that could in any wise disturb the equanimity of his adversary, has ever been charged to him.

He invariably waits until it is turn to play before he detaches the card from his hand, and thereby avoids giving an inkling to partner of what he is able to do with the lead. When it is his turn to play he places the card quietly in front of him, in such a manner that he avoids being called upon to "draw his card."

His hand is always arranged in a systematic manner before play commences, after which he keeps his atten-

tion fixedly riveted to the center of the table, that he may the better draw correct inferences, as the game progresses, and if the situation is such that an extra trick can be made, partner feels the assurance that the opportunity will not go unnoticed. 'Tis this unyielding scrutiny, ready inference and masterly ability to post the game as it progresses, that has carried him to the pinnacle of whist fame. His memory is wonderfully retentive and it is a rare occurance to hear partner accuse him of having the master card meet an ignominious fate.

Mr. Trist is exceptionally modest and retired in nature, is never given to idle, frivolous harangue, is peculiarly free from obtrusive and obnoxious acts, and bears himself, under all circumstances, a gentleman of culture and refinement. He is somewhat reserved in making new friendships, preferring to take time to study the applicant rather than give over the hand of good fellowship precipitately, but once given he proves steadfastly true so long as good behavior warrants.

He commands the highest respect of all who have had intimate association with him, and never has he been accused of proving false from a social standpoint or of a betrayal of confidence during his long business career.

Character is deeply moulded in his face, and it needs but a passing glance to convince one that his life is that of the upright.

He does not court the blandishments of the world in any degree, but rather prefers to live along in the even tenor of his way, which has so strongly characterized his life throughout.

II.

MILWAUKEE WHIST CLUB.

Sketch of the Club by "Singleton"—Sketches of Eugene S. Elliot, John Rheinart, Judge Gilson, Sam. M. Green, Henry C. Payne, George W. Chandler, Leslie Ryan, W. W. Thayer and the Late George W. Hall.

"IN 1875 a few gentlemen met in a shoe store on Grand Avenue and organized a chess club. Rooms were rented in the old Mack block at the corner of East Water and Wisconsin streets. Card games were not contemplated at the organization, but cards were soon introduced, and it was not long before Whist found its way to the top and compelled a change of name in the corporation. Chess players still have privileges and occasionally they manifest a moderate enthusiasm and hold a tourney in the rooms, but interest then abates while whist "goes on forever."

"The first match games were played with Racine, Wis. No official records were kept and no particular importance attached to the results. Later, when the Milwaukees found they were making a "record," it was desirable to have full particulars of all matches, but no records of the Racine games could be found and the result of three games won and two lost was arrived at by discussing the question with a few of the players that participated in the matches, and taking concensus of

opinion as the most reasonable conclusion. All except the Racine games are accurately recorded.

"It was not till the year 1880, which marked the advent of John Rheinart, that skill was introduced into the club; and whatever credit has since been achieved is generously and deservedly attributed to the principles inculcated by him.

"Mr. Rheinart as a partner of Deschapelles and a player of ripe experience, was well qualified to elevate the standard of play; and association with him soon showed favorable results and stimulated the members to emulate his skill, and it is no derogation of Mr. Rheinart's ability to say that several players have acquired his game as near as may be.

"During the season of 1890–91 the Milwaukee Whist Club has won three match games of Duplicate whist from Chicago, one game from Waukesha and one game of straight away whist from all the visiting clubs at the Whist Congress. The complete record, with the exception of the Racine games, is as follows: Appleton 5, Aurora 3, Chicago 8, Evanston 3, Fond du Lac 6, Neenah 1, Oshkosh 5, Rockford 6, United States 1, Waukesha 5, Wausau 1, a total of 44 games won and none lost except the Racine games. At the yearly meeting of the club, which occurred Sept. 17th, Mr. H. M. Northrop was elected President for 1891–92. Several matches will doubtless be played the coming year. When the Milwaukees reach a record of 50 games won there will very likely be a golden celebration.

"With all their success the Milwaukees realize that

there is just as good and perhaps better whist played in the East, but they are going to fight hard to preserve their record and will enter all contests with blood in their eyes.

"There is a good deal of talk about the next meeting of the American Whist League and Milwaukee may be counted on for a large delegation. With Mr. Northop as a leader, the members will feel equal to anything. Mr. Northrop is one of the best, if not the very best player in the club, but he doesn't know it, and this makes him a very agreeable partner.

"The younger element of the whist club is coming to the front and bids fair to supply new blood as fast as needed. Duplicate whist has proved a great educator and is now the popular game. Much more interest has been taken in whist this season than usual, and several tables are going every night. President Northop, Judge Gilson, Messrs. Elliot, Allen, Paine, Hall, Swain, Streeter, Chapin, Thayer, Atwell and Merrill are very regular in attendance, and Comstock is always there. The club misses the genial countenance of Mr. Rheinart, who has settled in California, but everybody cherishes the hope of seeing him back again, if only for a visit. The game of whist is continually advancing in Milwaukee, and if other sections of the country keep pace with that advance here, England will have to look to her laurels or the game will make greater progress here than there."

EUGENE S. ELLIOTT.

President of The First American Whist Congress, and
The American Whist League.

EUGENE S. ELLIOTT.

Eugene S. Elliott, the genial and capable President of The First American Whist Congress, and of its out-growth, The American Whist League, was born in Illinois in 1842. He began his career as a boy at Dartmouth College, N. H., in 1861, and would have graduated in the Class of 1865, but he and about eighty other students, mostly from Dartmouth and the Norwich Military Academy, were attacked with the war fever and enlisted in Co. B, 7th Squadron, Rhode Island Cavalry. He served with distinction, and after being mustered out engaged in business pursuits, but his bent was for law and he studied that profession, was admitted to the bar, and has since that time been practicing law in Milwaukee, where he has won a foremost position in the bar of that city, and that of one of the leading lawyers of his State.

Politically he is a Republican, and was elected City Attorney of Milwaukee in 1886, re-elected in 1888, and was renominated in 1890 and got a sounder thrashing and defeat than he ever met with at the whist table.

The Republican party had taken the affirmative of the question, "That every child within the State had the right to demand, and that it was the duty of the State to furnish every child, or to see that every child was furnished with the means of acquiring a knowledge of his duties as a citizen." Collateral to this the Republican party insisted that every child within the State should be taught reading, writing, arithmetic and American history in the English language.

Upon this wise issue the Republican party was buried deep, and President Elliott was so disgusted with the result that he forthwith closed his political career, as he hopes, forever.

In the interests of whist he was the chairman of the meeting that resulted in the formation of the Milwaukee Chess Club, which is the Milwaukee Whist Club of to-day, the name "whist" being substituted for "chess," owing to the fact that its members drifted from one game to another until chess was entirely wiped out of existence so far as the club was concerned, and the name of the club was changed accordingly.

Winfield Smith, of Milwaukee, ex-Attorney General of the State was the first President of the club. Mr. Elliott was its second President and James J. Jenkins, now Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, was its third President.

The Milwaukee Club is an association of strong whist players, and Mr. Elliott ranks as one of the stronger players among the strong.

He is an enthusiast in the interest of whist affairs, and he was the leading spirit in bringing to a head the club's idea of a Congress.

His judicial temperament eminently fits him for a presiding officer. Cool, diplomatic, impartial, firm, he directs a convention so that harmony prevails and business progresses.

The delegates to the Congress were by no means a unit in their views on whist, and the conduct of its affairs, the avoidance of dissension, and the success of

the Congress, were largely due to the breadth and scope shown by Eugene S. Elliot in the direction of its proceedings.

JOHN RHEINART.

This distinguished native of France occupies the enviable position of being the only living man who sat at the whist table with the whist genius, Deschapelles. He was a favorite partner of him who is accorded the honor place in whist history. This association of Mr. Rheinart's, was of the whist day of a half a century ago. Mr. Rheinart settled in this country, in the State of Iowa, in 1848, and engaged in the practice of law. He acquired an independence at it and removed to Milwaukee about twelve years ago. He has not been engaged in active business since. The present summer (1891) he removed to Los Angeles, California.

Mr. Rheinart is the Nestor of the Milwaukee Club, which accords him the rank of its best player.

In his whist play he follows the well established principles of the game as to the establishment of long suits, etc., but he will not tie himself down to the modern requirement of uniformity in original leads. He will deviate when in his judgment the interest of his hand demands it, but his departure in this regard is that of the expert, and not the tyro who has no deeper purpose than the hope of a ruff. Mr. Rheinart has a rare faculty of reading the combinations he is contending against, and he exercises great skill in directing the forces in his hand to meet them. This insight into stragetic situations makes him a most

formidable opponent, and the ordinary player who follows conventions, or otherwise, has no show in a sitting against him.

Personally Mr. Rheinart is an accomplished gentleman, with the courtesy of his race, but which with him is a part of his genial nature, and spontaneous. Apart from his most interesting whist career he is an affable and fascinating man to meet.

Mr. Rheinart is writing in *Whist*, the Milwaukee Journal, a sketch of his Parisian days and his association with Deschapelles, which has an especial value and interest for the whist world.

JUDGE FRANK L. GILSON

Is an exceptionally interesting conversationalist. He bristles, as it were, with personal magnetism. He will stroll with you into the charmed valley of poesy and romance; he will lead you onto the rugged hill of science, but he will not talk shop, or of himself. Consequently, you and he can converse for a fortnight of days and nights and you will learn something of everything but himself.

Bill Nye and the Judge were youthful chums together, and the way Bill puts it is, that the Judge is a good talker. He says the Judge could talk and make speeches through all the waking hours, but could not be got down to writing them or letters. Such prosaic work hampered him more than picketing with a thirty-foot lariat would. Mr. Nye attributes his early bald-

ness to the mental stress of holding up his end of the conversation with the Judge.

Outside of his chosen profession Judge Gilson is a scholar, and a sound and ripe one. Both socially and politically he has held high rank in his State for many years, and he is one of Wisconsin's ablest speakers. Officially he has served as District Attorney of his county and Speaker of the State Assembly. He was the law associate of President Eugene S. Elliott until within the last two years, when he was elected Judge of the Superior Court of Milwaukee County, which position he now occupies. In whist matters he is ranked among the best players of the Milwaukee Club. He is a devoted student of whist and is constantly improving his game.

The Judge is Dick Allen's favorite partner in a match, though he possesses none of Dick's brilliant whist erraticness. It is a tribute to the Judge's supreme self-control, that Dick has been unable to ruffle his nerves during five years of tactics, (designed to confuse the opponents,) as remarkable for their versatility as the antics of a colt turned loose.

The Judge and Dick were partners in the Milwaukee cyclone against the crack team of the Hamilton Club of Philadelphia. The Judge says, for the first few hands Dick had no more regard for conventions than a rattled Texas steer loose in a camp meeting, but after he had violated nearly every known principle and succeeded in convincing Townsend and Ellison that he knew nothing whatever about whist, he steadied down and played a really good game.

SAM. M. GREEN.

To run across Sam. M. Green in Milwaukee, not knowing him, one would be sure he was John Green, his brother, the Vice President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, up to some whist, or other scheme, in Milwaukee. They are very like. Sam being a Philadelphian, and also the Westerner from whose career the late Mr. Greely formulated his famous axiom, "Go west, young man," we shall lead a little off the "conventional" lines in noting him.

Sam was born in Philadelphia in August, 1851. At the tender age of sixteen years he went to Milwaukee. It is not recorded whether he ran away from home, fired with fancies of hunting the noble red man on the frontier, or whether a precocious judgment whispered to him it was the place for young blood and brains to grow up with. However, he got there, and his next five years were given to education, and to the thorough comprehension of the topography and resources of the district.

After he cast his virgin vote (Republican) at the spring election of '72, he engaged in the business of contractor for building railroads and other public works, and was active in it for seven years, when he went into manufacturing, and other business enterprises. Among them are the "Milwaukee Car Wheel and Foundry Co.," "Wisconsin Trust Co.," and "Milwaukee Mutual Loan and Building Association," all of which he is the Vice President of.

He is also Secretary and Treasurer of the "Northwestern Trust and Investment Co.," "The Highland House Co.," and "The North Avenue Park Co."

He holds large interests in all of them, and his youthful immigration west seems thereby justified.

He is a member of the Milwaukee Whist Club, and of the Milwaukee Club, and is a Presbyterian when he goes to church. Next to going to church, he would rather play whist than eat, and, as he is a busy man, he robs many of his meal hours for a rubber, and this is adjudged why he hasn't the dyspepsia, and hasn't grown stout. But he is never too busy to take care of the boys when they visit Milwaukee, which he stubbornly persists in holding up as the handsomest city in America.

The native conventionalists and guerrillas hold Sam up as a good specimen of a western hustler. He is full of electricity from the crown of his head to the sole of his feet, always has a move on and keeps other people moving, and plays whist in about the same way that he does business. His perceptions are acute, his judgment clear, his inferences prompt, and in the main correct, and he has the elements of a first-class whist player in his make-up, and if he cannot really spare the time from his multiform business, he should stop eating altogether, to gain time for practice and a great whist record.

HENRY C. PAYNE

Is another Milwaukee whist fiend of very much the same calibre of Sam. M. Green as a man. Mr. Payne would rather play whist than sleep, and as it usually

takes longer to sleep than to eat, he steals more time from his bed than Mr. Green can from the table; consequently he gets more practice as a whister than Mr. Green.

Among Republican politicians of Wisconsin, Henry C. Payne occupies about the same position that Thurlow Weed did in New York.

In other words he is a Republican boss.

Aside from his politics, which have nothing to do with the case, he is a genial, sociable gentleman, long-headed, clear-minded, sagacious in planning and prompt in executing.

If he has any special hobby it is dummy whist, which he prefers to any other, and he is said to be a terror at it. Whatever faults are chargeable to him as a whist player lie mainly in the rapidity of his play, which is characteristic of his mental make-up. He never did a slow thing in his life, and he is rarely guilty of a foolish one.

He is President of the Milwaukee and Northern Railroad, of the Wisconsin Telephone Company, and is General Manager and Vice President of the Edison Syndicate, which controls many miles of Milwaukee's street railways. It is counted in that city, if he is not worth millions to-day he will be before he is "cited to his compt;" and he is a young man yet, comparatively.

When John Green, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and of the Hamilton Whist Club, Philadelphia, gets his coat off and sits at the whist table with his brother, Sam. M. Green, and Henry C. Payne, there are three men together of the same alert electric type, and the

cards are bound to fly at the gait of two rounds to a wink. Though they may not be responsible for the origin of the term "railroad whist," their play is characterized by the rapidity with which they reach conclusions in their daily mass of routine business, and their whist inferences are generally as sound as their decisions in more serious affairs.

LESLIE RYAN.

Milwaukee has lost one of her strong players, Leslie Ryan, a bright young lawyer who represented the New York firm of attorneys of which ex-President Cleveland is a member, in some intricate cases in the West so ably and successfully, never losing a trick, that the firm considered ability of that sort should be transported to its proper field, New York City, and as a result, Ryan is now of that firm, and if its atmosphere should convert or pervert his Republicanism into Democracy, he will stand a fighting show of the nomination for Vice President if his chief becomes the standard-bearer of the Democratic party. New York and Tammany may unsettle Ryan's Republicanism, but it cannot break him into leading original singletons, or trumping his partner's ace.

GEORGE W. CHANDLER.

Is one of the strong stand-by's of the Milwaukee Club. He follows "Cavendish's" leads, and is a remarkably intelligent, bold player, quick in his inferences, accurate in his judgment, correct in his memory, and adaptable and reliable as a partner.

W. W. THAYER

Is one of the members of the Straw Elsworth Manufacturing Company. He started this life in the early fifties. The first fad of consequence he became infatuated with was dyspepsia, and the next one, whist. They both belong to the early phases of his career, and they and he have clung persistently together. So far, his whist has improved, and his dyspepsia at least has held its own. He is a confirmed crank on the one, while the other has not made him cranky. As a fiend he ranks with the strongest of the Milwaukee Club. He usually plays with H. M. Northrop, its present President, and they make a formidable pair, as Barney and Safford, who got a whiff of them in the "cyclone," will testify to.

Thayer is listed for a long life, as he is as conservative in his eating and drinking as he is in calling for trumps.

He is a frequent visitor to the East, and when he was on last spring dyspepsia had the floor and gallery too. His doctor prescribed fresh Delaware shad, and two doses of half a shad each tabled the dyspepsia fiend. And now Thayer is engaged in the pet scheme of stocking Lake Michigan with fresh Delaware shad. But he does not suffer this to encroach on his regular whist sittings. He has unfurled on his motto, "Death to Dyspepsia! Life Perennial to Whist!"

GEORGE W. HALL.

We regret the untimely death of George W. Hall, one of the youngest and brightest members of the club, which occured October 2d.

Mr. Hall was of a modest and reserved nature, and his merits were best known and appreciated as revealed by the ties of friendship. He was among the clubs strongest players, a student of the game and well read in its literature. He was one of the editors of *Whist*, and that excellent journal has sustained a great loss. His good judgment and zeal worked hand in hand in the interests of his paper. He was connected with one of the railroads and had just been promoted to a position of greater responsibility. In the straight away tournament of the Congress he was the partner of President Elliott, and they defeated Smith and Lodge, of the Albany Club. He was one of the four that represented the Milwaukee Club in the tournament played after the Orndorff system of duplicate.

III.

NARRAGANSETT WHIST CLUB.

Sketch of the Club—Its Civil Service Members and who they are—Sketches of Walter H. Barney, James A. George, George H. Newhall, George H. Sturdy, George H. Shepley, and G. W. Parker.

THE NARRAGANSETT WHIST CLUB, of Providence, Rhode Island, being a sort of civil service organization, that is, a candidate has to attain to a certain standard of whist before he can become a member, and whist experts of the club pass upon his acquirements in this regard, we shall refer to it rather fully.

It is one of the crack whist clubs of New England, and because of its requirements of whist ability, it has a comparatively limited but distinguished roll of members. Its officers are James A. George, President; George H. Newhall, Vice President; George H. Sturdy, Treasurer, and Walter H. Barney, Secretary. Its members are Arthur H. Carpenter, manufacturing jeweler; Philip B. Durfee, a prominent member of the City Council and of the firm of Coria & Co., oils; Danial A. Hunt; Dexter N. Knight, with his brothers, B. B. and R. Knight, the largest cotton manufacturers in the country; George H. Robinson, Vice President of the Gorham Manufacturing Co; George H. Shepley, insurance; Jesse B. Sweet, of the Sweet Grain Co.;

Orsmus A. Taft, brother of ex-Governor Taft; Walter R. Wightman, chief clerk of the Board of State Charities and Corrections; William H. Wood, real estate; James M. Smith, manager Providence branch of H. B. Smith Steam Heating Manufacturing Co.; Hoffman S. Dorchester, manufacturing jeweller, President of the Jewellers' Board of Trade; Clark Thurston, Vice President of the American Screw Co. The above are all of Providence. The non-resident members are Oscar J. Rathbun and his son Edward H. Rathbun, of Woonsocket, R. I., the former ex-Lieutenant Governor of Rhode Island and President of the Harris Woolen Co.; George W. Parker, of Boston, the favorite partner of "G. W. P.," author of "American Whist Illustrated"; M. H. Fuller, of Hartford Conn., and George West, of New York City.

The Narragansett can put up as strong teams at duplicate or straight whist as any club in the country.

It was represented at the Congress by Walter H. Barney and George H. Sturdy.

The following personal of some of its members will not be without interest to the whist world.

JAMES A. GEORGE,

The President of the club, is better known to his friends as "Gus."

"Gus" is a pronounced brunette, and draws the scales to scant 200 pounds. He is an Apollo in form and address, with too much whist sense, however, to even suggest the dude. He is of medium stature, has a

piercing dark eye, is good company, very entertaining, tells a capital story, has a phenomenal laugh, and is very popular socially. He loves whist above all things, is prompt and correct at inferences and play, and adaptable to all conditions of good or poor players. He is sound rather than speculative in play. He doesn't miss opportunities for coups, and when he indulges in them or in finesse they generally succeed because based upon correct inference.

"Gus" is in wholesale hardware, and he is an accurate judge of character in business or whist. Outside of all his other whist aptitude Gus's strong point is his adaptability and co-operation with partner. No one knows better than he how to snatch victory out of the jaws of defeat and to turn even his partner's misplays to advantage. His sticking talent at the game is almost without limit.

GEORGE H. NEWHALL,

The Vice President, is the manager of the Household Sewing Machine Co. His age is about thirty-seven years, but he looks ten years younger. He is tall, well-built, ruddy and genial, yet rather retiring.

He likes whist next best to his family, and his whist habits are regular and most exemplary.

No matter what the state of the game or hand may be, he drops whist at the club at the stroke of eleven P. M., but away from home he has all day and all-night staying power at the whist table. As a man and player he is most regarded by those who know him best, and

this regard grows upon acquaintance. He is an ideal man to sit with at whist, always ready to give up to partner and never rattled by his most erratic play.

Newhall is a favorite partner with both George and Sturdy and any two of them make a tough team for outside experts to tackle.

GEORGE H. STURDY,

Treasurer of the club, aged thirty-eight years, bald, but not born so,—acquired since he began wearing a plug hat. This feature gives George an unusually benign and intellectual front. At the royal game he has an intuitive perception of the lay of things, and with contempt of formal rules in such cases, he will cast conventions aside and astonish the table with erratic but sound and brilliant play.

George has no patience with a careless or incompetent player, and if his partner makes mistakes beyond his power of endurance, he will shell out a handful of dimes for the privilege of expressing himself. (There is a fine of 10 cents in the Narragansett Club for speaking after the trump is turned.) The club talks of building an ante-room where Sturdy can retire to to give vent to his feelings on such occasions. He is a reliable and strong player so long as he has a partner who does not break him up.

WALTER H. BARNEY,

The Secretary of the Narragansett Club, and the Recording Secretary of the American Whist League, was born and has spent most of his days in the staid old

town of Providence, but lived for a few years on the Pacific slope, which probably accounts for his occasional lapses from sound, conservative play to the idiosyncrasies of experiments that are sometimes disastrous, although sometimes meeting with phenomenal success. His interest in whist is of recent growth, dating from the inception of the Narragansett Club about four years ago. He is not naturally as fine a player as some of the other members of his club, but as a student of the game has outstripped them all. There is little that has been written on the game but he has read and carefully considered, and but few whist publications, modern or antique, but are on the shelves of his library. The "find" of an old, odd or new book on whist is hailed by him with that peculiar glee that only the bibliomaniac can appreciate. He has also studied the game from the mathematical and analytical side, and has worked out many of the most intricate problems. For instance he has devoted weeks of labor and hundreds of pages of figures to an analysis by the doctrine of probabilities of the value of the G. W. P. play of the nine from king, knave, nine, in suits not containing the ten. He has also a very carefully prepared analysis of the situation and relative value of the leads of ace and nine from ace, queen, ten, nine, and ace, knave, ten, nine. Some of his friends say that he would rather work out these problems than even to play the game itself. He, however, will not admit that anything outranks the game in interest. He is an excellent partner to one who plays regularly, and at

times is given to some very bright play, but is not so quick as some others to perceive or take advantage of irregular play on the part of his partner. When he makes an error no one perceives it quicker than he does himself, and certainly no one is so much disturbed by it. His play varies a good deal at different times according to the state of his feelings, but his thorough knowledge of the technique of the game and quick appreciation of the good play of either partner or adversaries, render him a welcome member of the table, even with much stronger players.

He was prominently identified with the Milwaukee Congress, and did much to make it a success. His acquaintance with the varied literature of the game, and his efforts in drafting the peculiar code of his own club, as well as his logical mind and legal training, rendered him an influential member of the committee which drafted the playing rules. He was also chairman, and himself drafted the constitution of the League. He is an enthusiast over the League and its prospects of growth and usefulness, and is an active worker on the Executive Committee.

He has visited most of the important clubs of the League, and is perhaps better acquainted than any one of his confreres with their membership.

He is a graduate of Brown University, and a lawyer by profession. He studied law in the office of Colwell & Colt, then composed of his present partner, Judge Colwell, and D. B. B. Colt, now U. S. Circuit Judge of the Appellate Division of the First (New England)

Circuit. As a lawyer, he is noted as a draughtsman and as a special pleader, and he brings the same logical and analytical powers into his studies of the game in which the cards are made to speak. He says that sometime he is going to write a book on "The Language of Whist." If he does so you may depend it will be at once thorough and readable.

He is thirty-seven years old, light complexioned, blue eyes, wears a full beard and Bostonian spectacles, is of medium height, and is inclined to grow aldermanic as he grows older.

Next to whist his hobby is Sunday School work. He has been for some years the Secretary of one of the largest Sunday Schools in New England, and claims to have the best equipped and most thoroughly systematized secretary's department in the world. Barney will teach the young ideas of his school how to shoot in the correct rudiments of whist, and thus lay the foundation to keep them out of mischief when they require wholesome recreation.

He is also something of a politician, a prominent member of the City Council, and President of the School Committee.

GEORGE H. SHEPLEY

Is the leading insurance man of Providence, and is a character. He is cited by his friends as a glorious fellow, and is one of those rare mortals adaptable to and companionable with everybody, and this is why Providence leads the insurance cities of New England.

Shepley has a powerful constitution, nerves of steel, and is a great athlete. He belongs to all of the clubs of Providence, and all the clubs within decent reach of the city. He also belongs to the Masonic Order, and has taken all its high-flying degrees and extra frills, and to all the other secret associations, except the churches, and is away up in all of them.

He is a great story teller, great joker, and an unmitigated player of practical jokes of the amiable sort. Hunting is his hobby, and he shoots and fishes from the Atlantic to the Pacific. He has never been known to tell a lie about the game he has bagged, or the big fishes he has landed. He is all activity, and works hard and plays hard. In his business he dictates to two or three unusually good-looking stenographers at a time. In whist he plays a very strong or a very ragged game, according to the state of his liver.

He is an all-nighter at the game. His family is a very charming one, and very lenient with George's all-night hobby, because they know he is doing nothing worse than whist. One of his children on being asked if she wasn't George Shepley's little girl, answered: "Well, I'm the little girl he sometimes takes breakfast with."

G. W. PARKER.

Mr. Parker is one of the strong players of the Narragansett Club, and is also a member of the Deschapelles Club, Boston. He is the partner that usually plays with "G. W. P.," and he played with him at Easton in the summer of 1890 against the "Easton

Quartette." In the "Week of Whist at Paxinosa," describing those interesting sittings, is the following reference to Parker, which fairly describes him: "Mr. Parker is a young man, undemonstrative and rather reserved in general bearing. He has a full, well-shaped head, nose slightly aqueline, deviating but a trifle from the line of his high broad forehead. His nostrils, mouth and chin mark force and firmness. He has been a student of whist for the past five years, and his aptitude for it was so pronounced that Mr. Pettes took a warm interest in developing his whist proclivity. Their relation has grown into that of *fidus Achates*, and they mainly play contests as partners, and powerful opponents they be. Mr. Parker has a masterly perception of the game, and his keen judgment is extremely rarely at fault. In many cases it is marvellous, seeming almost prescient. His conduct of the game is masterly without qualification."

IV.

THE DENVER CLUB.

Denver—The Type of its Representative Men—The Denver Club—Sketch of its President, Henry R. Wolcott—His Influence to Promote Better Whist—Messrs. Jerome, Denman, Bissell, Sullivan, Cherry, C. D. Gurley and the Irrepressible R. A. Gurley.

DENVER is the Queen City of the mountains. It is the handsomest, most substantial and most progressive city west of the Mississippi and east of the Pacific coast. Its population is typical of that order of brains and energy that young men of the East have found their native homes a too circumscribed field to satisfy their ambition. There is a characteristic in the population that has sought Denver that may be defined as the opposite of that of a class who settle in the conservative routine of business incident to agricultural centres. A mineral district provides a more attractive, less unhampered range for ambition of the kind that has a cast of imagination as well as business in it. There is more speculation in its eye. It is not content to be tied down. It plays a heavier hand. It risks defeat to achieve great reward. Men of this type are usually broad, bold and generous. And the men who have won in the mountain mines represent the broad, liberal enterprise that Denver is built upon. Though there is a speculative element in this kind of man, Denver has been freer

from speculative booms than any city in the West. In fact, there has never been any speculative real estate boom there, and the city's enhancements in realty values have been of legitimate outgrowth. The explanation of this lies mainly in the fact that the speculative bent finds vent in the vast mineral territory of Colorado of which Denver is the commercial and social metropolis. All the representatives of Colorado's successful mining enterprises headquarter in Denver, and every street in the beautiful city bears evidence of their pride in it, and the princely liberalty of their expenditure on its improvement.

The Denver Club, of which we started to write, is in illustration of the characteristics we have briefly outlined. Founded twelve years ago, it has a membership of over four hundred, with one of the handsomest and best equipped club houses in the country. They have expended $250,000 on their property.

About forty per cent of its members are non-residents. The business interests of two-thirds of these non-residents are scattered through all parts of Colorado, and those of the remaining third mainly in mineral districts of other Rocky Mountain States and Territories. Their social and local business centres in Denver. This non-resident club element shows what we have indicated of Denver's make-up very pronouncedly.

A representative man of this type is Hon. Henry R. Wolcott, President of the club. He was born in Massachusetts in 1846, and in 1869 his restless energy sought a broader opportunity in the Rocky Mountains than he considered the sluggish East afforded him. He

was not mistaken, and his business insistency and integrity have brought him rewards that few have attained. He has been and is identified with many of the most stable interests of the West, and his sound judgment and wise counsels have never failed to carry them to a successful issue. Denver bears his mark in its palatial buildings and heaviest business enterprises, and the interests of the city and the State in general owe a great deal to his unselfish zeal in advancing them. Socially Mr. Wolcott is a prince among men. Cordial, genial and sincere, he has won a host of devoted friends. The club owes much of its status to his wise administration. As with his other affairs, he conducts it on no meagre base, hence the club house and appointments on their magnificent scale are largely due to him.

The club has been fortunate in having such a man at its presidential helm ten of its twelve years of existence.

It is a social club with a strong whist element in it. Its president is devoted to the game, is a student of its literature, theory and practice, and his influence has done much to elevate whist to its higher standpoints in his club. Mr. Wolcott concentrates his entire attention on developments during play, and he rarely fails to grasp the true strategic situation and take advantage of it. Hence he is naturally fond of duplicate whist, the game that pitilessly holds the mirror up to weakness, inattention and carelessness. Mr. Wolcott is of the opinion that the time is near at hand when all prominent whist clubs will adopt duplicate as the standard game.

He has taken a strong interest in the League associa-

tion of whist clubs, and nothing in reason will keep this genial fiend from meeting his brother fiends at the next Congress in New York City.

The whist career of players in the Denver Club of the rank of L. Jerome, A. A. Denman, J. B. Bissell, Dennis Sullivan, James A. Cherry, the irrepressible R. A. Gurley and others of the whist coterie would make interesting subjects, but excepting the last two named, who figure throughout these pages, we have not the personal acquaintance to warrant the attempt to record them. But in passing it can be said that C. D. Gurley, the brother of the "irrepressible," *was* a formidable fiend, but he has suffered business and other loves to woo him from whist, yet it is held by his fellows, who miss him from the table, that he will come wandering like the prodigal son into the true fold again.

R. A. Gurley and James A. Cherry represented the club at the Congress, and took a prominent and important part in its proceedings. In the straight-away cyclone, Paine and Smith buried them in a snow-drift thirty-four points deep. But Rocky Mountain fiends don't mind a little avalanche of that sort. They shook themselves out of it, and tackled Ellison and Townsend, of the Hamilton Club, and defeated them by seven net points in twelve boards at duplicate, and Safford and Foster four points in eight boards; defeated several Milwaukee teams at straight-away whist, and went back to their mountain huts with heads up. It is said they were gunning for the Pomfrets, but it is not probable they hunted with much energy.

V.

THE HAMILTON CLUB.

Its Origin—Its Handsome New Club House—Membership—Its Tournament Team—List of Some of its Strong Players—The Whist Hand in Which Each Player Held Thirteen Cards of a Suit—Its Doings at the Congress.

THE HAMILTON CLUB, of Philadelphia, grew out of the enthusiasm of a few devotees of whist who met on stated occasions at their homes to enjoy their favorite game. They multiplied apace and incorporated into club form in 1887. Rented quarters were occupied until 1889, when they moved into their present elegant new club house on Forty-first Street, north of Spruce, which is the finest club building in the country that is devoted exclusively to whist. Mr. Wm. H. Kimball, one of its members, had the direction of its plans and construction, and if there were more of his sort of architectural capability and practical good sense applied in the erection of private and public buildings, there would be a greater measure of content in living in them. In the Hamilton Club building the dominating idea was utility, and this was secured without encroachment on comfort and attractiveness. Its proportions are harmonious, its ventilation thorough and its furnishment appropriate, rich and simple. Its large open fire-places, hard wood finish, and the appointments of its suites are

without coldness and formality, and their atmosphere is of home-like comfort.

The club has about 125 members at present. It is exclusively a whist club, and as such is the largest organization in the country. Its members all play whist, and the great majority of them have passed far beyond the line of "scrub" whist. Fifty players could be selected from them able to cope with a like number, say from the Milwaukee Club, inclusive of Dick Allen, while teams of Hamiltonians can be picked that can sit against the picked players of the country, and they must be strong indeed if the Hamiltons do not defeat them. The representative tournament team are its President, E. Price Townsend, Eugene L. Ellison, Gustavus Remak, Jr., and Milton C. Work, and they are a formidable quartette of experts. There are teams scarcely less formidable, yet we cannot undertake to point them out, but name a number of the higher rank players, knowing at the same time that there are omissions because of unfamiliarity with their quality of play.—Harrison Townsend, E. A. Ballard, Dr. H. W. Cattell, J. B. Collahan, Captain John M. Walton, Wm. H. Kimball, Henry C. Brown, Dr. Wyllis K. Ingersoll, Dr. Charles W. Dulles, Joseph H. Cofrode, John Fahnestock, Charles E. Hallowell, Wm. S. McIntire, Franklin Townsend, R. D. Work, Dr. M. H. Forrest, J. H. Loomis, Dr. W. C. Dixon, Charles H. Yarnell, Seymour B. Neff, Eugene Van Loan, Edward J. Durban, Robert Lowrie, John P. Green, Frank Evans, Dr. S. R. Skillern, A. W. Russell, Charles Este, Dr. E. J.

Keffer, Andrew Low Green, Edward R. Sharwood, Dr. R. M. Girvin, John C. Johnson, J. Irvine Scott, Wm. Howell, Jr., O. H. Searle, Charles M. Griskey, Edward A. Greene, Charles F. Seeger, George J. Klemm, Albert Graff, John F. Craig, J. E. Hyneman.

The club allows no betting or playing for stakes in any form, nor the use of malt or spirituous liquors in its house. In its play heretofore it has conformed generally to "Cavendish's" system for English play, but since the meeting of the Congress it has adopted the system of American leads as formulated by "Cavendish" in his 19th Edition, Appendix C.

President E. Price Townsend, Eugene L. Ellison, Captain John M. Walton and William S. Kimball represented the club at the Milwaukee Congress, and took a prominent part in its discussions. In the cyclone tournament of Milwaukee against All-America, Townsend and Ellison fell into the hands of that prince of guerillas, Dick Allen, and the Rev. Judge Gilson. Dick brought out his full band, and about all that he could be depended upon for the first few hands was not to revoke, but after he had worked Philadelphia up to what he considered the dead ripe stand-point of uncertainty, he steadied down and proceeded to scoop it. The Hamilton pair, used to nothing but victory, caught on, after this one lesson, that it would be as futile a scheme to try and down Dick by conventions as to attempt to run an express train on a turnpike. Captain Walton and Kimball, however, evened things up for the Hamilton in the cyclone, and were the only team from the East that wasn't up-ended in the breeze. But the

Captain didn't go through the war for nothing, and he is alike cool, wary and adaptable at whist. Kimball and Walton's victory, and Townsend's winning of the Streeter trophy, were stars on the banner the Hamilton bore from the Congress.

The editor of the Milwaukee *Sentinel*, who interviewed Mr. Ellison, said as follows of him:

"Eugene L. Ellison is one of the crack players of the Hamilton Club, Philadelphia. He has been very active in the business of the Congress, and took an active part in the discussions of the business session. Speaking of the Congress, Mr. Ellison said: 'The game of whist throughout all the country will feel the good effects of this Congress. It will establish a uniformity in the playing rules, or at least will take a step in that direction, which will reach the end required at some future Congress. Acquiring such a uniformity is an important advance, and may not be accomplished all at once, but with this beginning it is bound to be brought about. It will also develop the game, and new whist clubs will spring up all over the country. This Congress is an excellent thing for the welfare of the game.'"

The Hamilton Club has a whist curiosity, framed and hanging on its walls, in the shape of a hand in which each of the players held thirteen cards of a suit. The cards were regularly shuffled, cut and dealt, and played September 4, 1889. The players were Dr. S. R. Skillern, Joseph H. Cofrode, Wm. S. Kimball and A. W. Russell. The hand is certified to by the affidavit of each player.

The club's officers are: President, E. Price Townsend; Vice President, Captain John M. Walton; Treasurer, Edwin R. Sharwood; Secretary, J. B. Colahan, Jr.

VI.

WORCESTER AND EASTON.

The Commonwealth Club, of Worcester, Mass.—Its Membership, Laws, and Record of Contests—Fines for Deviations from the Order for the Original Lead—Thos. C. Orndorff. The Pomfret Club, of Easton, Pa.—Its Rules, and Method of Duplicate—Its Delegates in the Milwaukee "Cyclone."

THE COMMONWEALTH CLUB, of Worcester, Mass., is one of the crack clubs of the East, where whist is played from the scientific stand-point. It was incorporated in 1880, and has a resident membership of 150, and fifteen non-resident members. The original limit to membership was 150, but the limit was extended this year to 200.

It is a social organization, and it occupies a fine building, with billiard, pool, and card rooms, parlor, reading room and banquet room. The club has a banquet once a month, a feature that promotes its interests. No liquors are allowed in the club, nor any playing for stakes. It numbers 48 regular whist players, and it has a whist session each afternoon and night, and a record is kept of scores. During the month of September forty-two members took part in the play, scoring 8,323 points in 1,522 games, showing an average of 5.^{470} points per game. Fifteen members played over

100 games during the month, the highest average being 5.^{841} by F. B. Waite. Three members played over 200 games, L. B. Thayer making the highest average, 5.^{629}.

The club enforces very strict rules to govern its games of whist. Silence is the order after the trump is turned, and penalties for breaches are in points added to or deducted from the score, to be enforced between deals.

The importance the club attaches to correct play is witnessed by their rule for the original lead, which is as follows:

"If deviation from the order of leads is made upon the original lead of the first player, attention may be called to the error by any of the players, and he shall be fined five points, to be deducted from his individual score for the session."

Thomas C. Orndorff, the inventor of the Orndorff system of duplicate described in these pages, is a member of this club.

The Commonwealth Club wears the scars of many a hard-fought battle with the experts of Boston, and of the clubs of other New England cities, but it bears the banners of more victories than defeats.

This club wears a chip on its shoulder, and its latch-string is always out to any of the professors who may care to try conclusions with it over the whist table.

Its officers are: President, Henry E. Smith; Vice President, Thomas C. Orndorff; Treasurer, Frank P. Kendall; Clerk, Herbert A. Currier.

The club was represented at the Milwaukee Congress by Thomas C. Orndorff.

THE POMFRET CLUB,

Of Easton, Pa., is a social organization comprising fifty-six members. Its club house is at 319 Northampton Street. Thirty-eight of its members play whist, about one half of them regularly, the remainder but occasionally. The American system is the one generally followed.

Duplicate whist has become popular, and is preferred by most of the players since the Kalamazoo trays have relieved it of its former tedious features of preparing and numbering the hands, and preserving them for the overplay. With the trays, the game can be finished in less time than at straight-away whist, as the hands can be all dealt prior to the sitting if needs be.

With single tables at the Pomfret Club, the custom is to play about three sittings in of, say, fifteen hands each before the overplay is begun, as it is found that the element of memory is too pronounced with exceptional hands when the play and overplay occur at the same sitting. Intermediate sittings confuse, if they do not entirely eliminate, this factor of memory.

Neither liquors nor playing for stakes are allowed in the club.

Its officers are President, Joseph S. Rodenbough; Treasurer, John Maxwell; Secretary, John Bacon.

The Pomfrets were represented at the Milwaukee Congress by C. D. P. Hamilton and C. S. Boutcher.

This long-geared pair of Easton tenderfeet were not acclimated to the western zephyrs, and when the Mil-

waukee straight-away Cyclone struck them, they were tossed about like a canal boat in a gale without its rudder and mules. When Rheinart and Wight got through with them, they went into hospital with thirty-three wounds to look after. They only found two teams there with more scars. One of them they ciphered out to be Gurley and Cherry, of Denver, scarcely recognizable for bandages, the other, swathed entirely out of sight, the surgeon said were the Briggs brothers, of Minneapolis. The rest of the ward was full of cripples with from twenty to thirty pretty tough wounds.

VII.

GROUP OF EASTERN CLUBS.

The Washington, D. C. Clubs: The Bicycle, The Chess, Checker and Whist, and The Columbia Athletic Clubs—The Owl Club, of St. Albans, Vt.—Sketch of A. G. Safford—The Cherry Diamond Whist Club—The Manhattan Whist Club— The Albany Club.

A. G. Safford represented four prominent Clubs at the Congress, namely, "The Bicycle Club," "The Chess, Checker and Whist Club," "The Columbia Athletic Club," of Washington, D. C., and "The Owl Club," of St. Albans, Vermont.

Mr. Safford took an important part in the proceedings of the Congress, both on the floor and in the committee rooms, and as he is an official of the League and an unmitigated whist fiend, with the higher interests of the game always in mind, a brief outline of his active career will have interest for the fraternity.

He was born in St. Albans, Vermont, in 1844, was educated at the University of Vermont, entered the army in '63 and served until July '65 in the Military Telegraph Corps. He was made chief operator of the Department in '64, and was at Gen. Grant's Headquarters, City Point, Va., until the surrender of Lee.

After the war he studied law, and was admitted to the bar in September, '67, and practiced law in Vermont

continuously until 1886, when he removed to Washington, D. C., and engaged in general practice. Among his clients is the Inter-State Commerce Commission, whose business in the courts he attends to.

Politically, Mr. Safford represented his native county—Franklin—in the Senate of the Vermont Legislature in 1880, and for many years he was identified with the administration of the public schools of his State, insisting that it was the duty of the State to furnish free a sufficient education to all its inhabitants to enable them to understand and exercise the duty of citizenship properly.

So far as whist is concerned, Mr. Safford claims his experience has not been great. Be that as it may, his whist practice shows that he has not neglected such opportunities as he has had.

He has for many years advocated the study and practice of the game as a means of mental discipline, believing it to rank among the potent factors in that regard, quite equal to the discipline of the study of the higher mathematics, but yielding an education of a more useful character practically, that is to say, that of thinking quickly and acting surely.

Mr. Safford never played in a match game until he struck the straight-away cyclone in Milwaukee, in which he was "up-ended" like most of his brother delegates. Since then he has played in two important matches, one of them being the match in duplicate between the Cherry Diamond Club, of New York, and the Hamilton Club, of Philadelphia, in which Messrs. Safford, Maynard,

Creamer and Streeter, of the Cherry Diamonds, defeated by four points Messrs. Townsend and Townsend, Remak and Ballard, of the Hamiltons, in a sitting of sixteen hands and their overplay. The second was a match in which he and eleven players sat against twelve players of the Capital Bicycle Club, and were beaten. Mr. Safford's standing, with that of his partner, in the contest was plus two.

Personally, Mr. Safford is one of the most genial of men, and whist cranks will always find pleasure in meeting him.

THE OWL CLUB.

The Owl Club, of St. Albans, Vermont, was organized in 1886. It is a social club with a resident membership limit of one hundred and twenty-five. Its constitution prohibits the use of intoxicating liquors or the playing of games for money on the club premises. Whist forms one of the prominent features of the club.

It has 114 resident members and 17 non-resident members.

Its officers are President, Silas W. Cummings; Vice President, Ahira S. Richardson; Treasurer, Chas. H. Anderson; Secretary, Arthur R. Sabin.

A. G. Safford represented it at the Congress.

THE CHERRY DIAMOND WHIST CLUB.

The Cherry Diamond Whist Club, of New York City, was organized in April, just before the first American Whist Congress, and was an attempt to concentrate the scattering interest in whist that already existed

among the 3,000 members of the Manhattan Athletic Club. It is managed by a Board of Five Governors, M. H. Elkin, President; R. F. Foster, Secretary and Treasurer, and three others, J. E. Wood, W. H. Smith and H. P. Pike. There are no dues, but an initiation fee of $2 is charged, which goes into a fund for prizes and sundries. The management give two tournaments each Winter, one from September to January 1st; the other from January to May 1st. Six prizes are given in cash; four for the four first men in the point of high scores, and two for the two highest in the duplicate whist. The returns from the score-cards are posted every week on the bulletin board in the card-room. The club now has about 180 members, and the score-cards show an average daily attendance of 21. The nominal stake of fifty cents a game is the club stake for regular whist, and twenty-five cents a trick for duplicate. This club scores only one side in duplicate whist, folding down the score card and scoring the other side for the overplay. The gains are then marked, showing the number of tricks won, which is much simpler than the double entry of the Kalamazoo method. The club has only played one important match, in which it defeated the Hamilton Club of Philadelphia by four points, each club being represented by four players.

THE MANHATTAN WHIST CLUB.

The Manhattan Whist Club, of New York, was organized as a branch of the Manhattan Chess Club in March, 1889, with T. M. Tyng as President, and R. F.

Foster as Secretary. It was intended to meet the demand for a chance to play cards sometimes made by the chess players. Owing to the large German element in the club, whist was very little played, scat being the chief game, with some penuchle and bezique. No provision having been made for prizes or tournaments, and the club being generally regarded as a mere appendage to the chess club it was never a success, and although represented at the First American Whist Congress, never joined the League. R. F. Foster was its representative at the Congress.

THE ALBANY CLUB.

The Albany Club, of Albany, New York, is a general social organization, but has organized among its members a Whist Union containing twenty-two players on its roll. Its President is E. Leroy Smith, and its Secretary and Treasurer Henry Whiting Garfield. The Union has a committee on play, and its whist nights are Wednesday and Saturday. Its President, Mr. Smith, and Barrington Lodge, Jr., two strong players, represented their club at the Congress. In the straight-away cyclone, against President Elliott and Hall, their score was only four points off. It would hardly have been courteous in them to throw their President. This streak of courtesy on the part of all the delegates to the Milwaukee players, however, was very marked and uniform.

VIII.

CHICAGO CLUBS.

Englewood and Chicago Whist Clubs—Theodore Schwarz —The Wahpanseh Club—H. B. Herr—The Park Club Whist Association—The P. D. Q. Whist Club—Its Members—The Illinois Club—The American Whist Club—The Ashland Club—The Chicago Duplicate Whist Club—The Evanston Whist Club—The Hyde Park Whist Club—The Kenwood Whist Club—The Oak Park Whist Club—The University Club.

The Englewood and Chicago Whist Clubs.—Theodore Schwarz, the President of the Englewood Club, Chicago, took an influential part in the proceedings of the Congress, both in the discussions on the floor and work in the committee rooms. He was one of the most thoroughly informed men on whist literature in the Congress, and his whist practice being as thorough, they gave force to his opinions and recommendations. He was chairman of the Committee on Laws, and is the Corresponding Secretary of the League.

Since the Congress, Mr. Schwarz has been instrumental in organizing the whist forces of Chicago into a special whist club. The organization has been effected, and it begins its career with 300 members, under the name of "The Chicago Whist Club," with Theodore Schwarz as President, and Geo. W. Keehn as Secretary.

The Milwaukee *Sentinel* said of Mr. Schwarz:

"Mr. Theodore Schwarz, of the Englewood Club, is the President of that organization, and is its bright and shining light. He has had a large experience with whist, and knows many clubs and players. After having seen the Milwaukee Whist Club play several times, he thinks that it is the strongest one in the United States. He is an authority on laws and rules, is patient when playing, never gets rattled, and is a hard man to beat. J. H. Fairchild, also of the Englewood Club, is a brilliant player. He is not such a stickler for rules as Mr. Schwarz, but plays a strong game."

THE WAHPANSEH CLUB.

The Wahpanseh Whist and Chess Club, Chicago, was organized, in 1889, to develop and perfect the game of American Whist, and instruct its members in the science thereof; to study chess and kindred scientific games. Its roll registers something over fifty members.

The whist to be played, the laws of the game, and the general rules for players adopted by this club, are those set forth in "American Whist Illustrated."

The Wahpanseh Club interpret these laws literally, and during play do not allow silence broken, or any of the cited manifestations or irregularities. Their infringement incurs the penalty of a point for each offense.

The lady friends of members of the club are privileged to the use of the club on Wednesday afternoon.

Its officers are: President, Hiero B. Herr; Vice President, Simeon H. Crane; Secretary, Percy B. Herr; Treasurer, A. E. Mattison.

Its delegates to the Congress were Hiero B. Herr and Philander Pickering.

THE PARK CLUB WHIST ASSOCIATION

Is an organization that was formed, in 1888, within the Park Club, 57th and Rosalie Court, South Chicago, with Henry N. Parry as its first President. The membership has varied between 16 and 30, the present roll numbering 22.

The club has the best record for consecutive victories of any Chicago whist organization, having won nine straight contests. Some of the best whist talent in Chicago is to be found in the club. It is a member and staunch supporter of the League, and its doors are hospitably open for all League whist players who may be in the city. The members are much interested in the new whist club Mr. Schwarz, the Secretary of the League, is organizing in the city, in the quarters of which the members hope to be able to hold the Congress in 1893.

The President of the club is J. W. B. Frazer, Secretary and Treasurer, F. W. Hamill. Henry N. Parry represented it at the Congress. Mr. Parry was one of the team of four delegates that won the contest with the Milwaukee team after the Orndorff system of duplicate.

THE P. D. Q. WHIST CLUB,

Of Chicago, is a private organization for whist exclusively. Its members make up just four tables. They play careful deliberate whist, with regard for their scores, which decide the winners of two prizes which are a part of each winter's programme, hence the club acquired its title from grounds of more substance than

the lightning or railroad quality of its play. The club opens each fall's campaign with a banquet, meets weekly at the home of one of its members in stated order, plays good whist and also has good times.

Every member is an officer, and its roster runs as follows: W. W. Augur, President; J. A. Barber, Treasurer; C. V. Kasson, Secretary; J. G. Coleman, Chaplain; C. E. Deane, Monkey Monk; C. N. Fessenden, Major Domo; G. F. Fiske, Surgeon; M. Hutchinson, The Doctor; M. E. Schmidt, Bottle Holder; Wm. Sprague, The Silent; J. L. Waller, Major General; W. Waller, The Prize Winner; D. P. Wilkinson, The Cuckoo; J. Wilkinson, The Bawler; T. Campbell, High Private; S. A. Lynde, His Honor.

C. V. Kasson was delegate to the Congress.

ILLINOIS CLUB.

The Illinois Club, Chicago, is a social club with a membership of about four hundred. A large number of the members play whist, but give no special attention to quality of play.

There are in the club, however, five tables at which the higher order of play prevails.

L. D. Hammond, Isaac H. Holden, M. W. Borland and Wm. F. James represented the Illinois at the Congress.

AMERICAN WHIST CLUB, CHICAGO.

This club was organized the present summer exclusively as a whist club, to play scientific whist. It has adopted the system set forth in "American Whist Illus-

trated " as the authority for play. The club starts with fourteen members, one half of whom are from the expert players of the Illinois club. L. B. Jenkins, an expert of the Deschapelles Club, Boston, is on its roll. Lyman D. Hammond, President; Wm. F. James, Vice President; W. C. Coe, Secretary and Treasurer.

OTHER CHICAGO CLUBS.

The other Chicago clubs represented at the Congress were:

The Ashland Club.—A. V. Booth.

Chicago Duplicate Whist Club.—F. C. Hale, P. R. Jedkins.

Evanston Whist Club.—A. N. Young, E. H. Reed, Jno. E. Burke, Martin M. Gridley, Jno. E. Childs.

Hyde Park Whist Club.—Henry E. Fisk.

Kenwood Whist Club.—E. G. Shumway, H. E. Fisk.

Oak Park Whist Club.—W. A. Hutchinson, A. H. Standish, R. W. Goodwillie, Ed. T. Johnson, T. G. Morris.

University Club.—H. S. Stevens, Theo. Sheldon, S. A. Snyder, S. T. French, J. S. Waller, F. P. Hall, G. F. Fiske.

IX.

MINNESOTA CLUBS.

Sketches of the Minneapolis Chess, Checker and Whist Club, and of the St. Paul Whist Club—The Union League Club of Minneapolis.

THE MINNEAPOLIS CHESS, CHECKER AND WHIST CLUB.—This club, as its name implies, is given to games of skill. Whist comes last on its title, but it is a case of the last shall become first, and whist is the predominating feature of the club. It has now about one hundred and twenty-five members, but such an impetus has been given to whist that the membership is expected to reach two hundred before the close of the year. The club takes great interest in whist and has a number of strong players. It had a tournament this summer of straight-ahead whist in which twenty-five teams took part, each team playing twenty-five hands against every other team, and this contest was followed by a duplicate tournament.

O. H. Briggs and J. H. Briggs were the representatives to the Congress, and if it hadn't been for them, the irrepressible Gurley and his partner Cherry, of Denver, would have carried first place in the tilt of Milwaukee against all America at straight whist.

It was Minneapolis and Denver alone that blocked the Pomfrets from first honors. However, third place

is not entirely barren of credit in a tilt of fifty-two teams.

The Briggs brothers play the advanced system, and put up a strong game. They stayed over after the Congress to give Milwaukee the opportunity of revenge at duplicate, but Milwaukee failed to take advantage of it. Duplicate contests against three of Milwaukee's best pairs resulted, one a tie, and two for the Briggs Brothers by three and eleven points respectively.

The officers of the club are: President, Nelson P. Whiting; Vice President, Harry P. Robinson; Secretary, C. H. Brinsmaid; Treasurer, Frank S. Lewis.

THE UNION LEAGUE CLUB

of Minneapolis, was represented at the Congress by E. Lincoln Parke.

ST. PAUL WHIST CLUB.

BY W. S. HAY.

The St. Paul Chess, Checkers and Whist Club, St. Paul, Minn., was organized in September, 1887, by eighteen enthusiasts of the games named. Its leading spirits were devotees of chess rather than lovers of the other two games; so the club, at its start, was little more than a chess club. The addition of new members and the inherent fascinations of whist rapidly changed the club characteristics. By the operations of other causes, checkers was almost entirely neglected, and chess became a secondary consideration.

That period in the life of all similar societies, where financial difficulties beset, was happily of short duration.

After a few months existence, the membership had reached a point where the income exceeded the expenses. From this point the growth of the club was uniform; each quarter finding an increased surplus in the treasury. This was accomplished, notwithstanding the small initiation fee of $5.00 and the annual dues of $15.00.

The domestic life has been remarkably free from internal dissensions. This is doubtlessly due, in a large measure, to the wisdom of the founders in prohibiting the playing of any game in the club rooms for a pecuniary consideration, or for a wager of any kind. A fruitful source of ill-feeling among the members was thereby guarded against, and no attraction was offered to a class of players who cultivate the games from other than the best motives. The introduction of any intoxicating drinks into the club rooms was also prohibited, and experience seems to prove this to have been a wise restriction.

The government of the club is entrusted to a board of directors, consisting of the five officers and four directors elected at a general club meeting, semi-annually. All routine business is transacted by this board, and only matters of greater importance are brought before the club.

The quarters originally selected were soon outgrown, and the entire third floor of a building was secured and comfortably furnished. This gave the club a home in one of the most convenient and central portions of the city, No. 48 E. Fourth street, and in a modern building, the third floor being designed by an architect member for the purpose.

Notwithstanding the constantly moving and restless character of the population of a western city, as shown by there being only five of the original eighteen charter members still in the club, the membership has shown a steady growth. The report of the treasurer at a meeting held in September, 1891, shows seventy active members and several pending applications. The character and the high individual standing of the members in social, professional, political and business circles indicate the extent of the club's influence, and the place it has secured in the city's life. It is pointed to with pride by the citizens, and its doings are considered entitled to lengthy notices by the local daily papers. The Governor of the State, the leading lawyers, the wealthiest and most prominent business men are included in its list of members, and the proficiency they exhibit in their favorite amusement demonstrates that a rational love for a cultivation of an intellectual game does not constitute a handicap in the more important game of life.

One of the chief features in the growth and development of the club has been the annual contest with the similar organization of the sister city of Minneapolis. Each of the past three winters has witnessed a friendly contest at whist between the two clubs. The number of tables engaged has varied, but has been sufficient to include practically the entire membership of each club, and the contest has been extremely close.

The winters of '88 and '89 brought victory to Minneapolis, but St. Paul redeemed her reputation by winning an exciting and close contest during the winter

of '90. In a total score of 13,725 points, St. Paul won by 119 points.

These contests have excited very general interest in each of the two cities, and have been the means of increasing the membership of both clubs.

The present officers of the club are: R. W. Ransom, President; Geo. L. Bunn, Vice President; A. T. Nettleton, Treasurer; D. S. Sperry, Librarian; W. C. Handy, Secretary, and O. M. Metcalf, J. W. Krappel, W. S. Hay and G. M. Orr, Directors.

W. S. Hay was the Milwaukee representative.

The club rooms are always open to non resident lovers of either of its three games, and members of similar clubs in other cities are especially welcome.

X.

A GROUP OF WESTERN CLUBS.

The Wausau Club—The Oshkosh Whist Club—The Detroit Whist Club—The Indianapolis Whist Club—The Waukesha Club—The Hillasdle Whist Club—The Commercial Club of Dubuque.

THE WAUSAU CLUB.—The whist club of Wausau, Wis., has had an informal existence for about eight years, during which time it has had a number of local tournaments and has taken part in two matches; one with the Oshkosh Club, winning in both an afternoon and an evening session, and the other with the Milwaukee Club, won by the latter by a very slender majority—as close a call as those Invincibles ever had!

In February, 1891, the Wausau Whist Club was regularly organized with fifty members, L. A. Pradt being President and E. B. Sanders, Secretary. A full delegation to the Whist Congress at Milwaukee was chosen, but John Ringle was the only one in attendance. He proved a most redoubtable representative, however, as the record of his play bears witness. Mr. Ringle is, probably, the strongest player in the club, although not as much of a student of the authorities as some others of the club, notably the President and Secretary. The club can muster a team of a dozen players of about equal strength with Mr. Ringle that could *tackle* an equal

number from any other organization with a good chance of victory, so they think at least, and are willing to test conclusions at any time.

THE OSHKOSH WHIST CLUB.

The enterprising City of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, shows the interest taken in whist by a whist club of forty-two members who are devoted to the interests of the game, and are open for trials of skill with other clubs. Its officers are Geo. W. Burnell, President; A. B. Hooper, Secretary. The delegates to the Milwaukee Congress were Geo. W. Burnell, F. G. Josslyn, Geo. B. Adams, Henry A. Jewell.

DETROIT WHIST CLUB.

The Detroit Whist Club, Michigan, has twenty members on its roll. It is exclusively a whist organization.

W. P. Stewart represented it at the Congress. He was one of the three delegates who tied for the Streeter diamond medal in the duplicate contest. Mr. Stewart is described by Mr. Foster as being the best partner he ever played with. He is well up on the rules, plays steadily, and does not get tired when he has a poor hand. No matter how weak his hand is, he plays it so as to give his partner every possible assistance. Mr. Stewart was prominent in the parliamentary proceedings of the Congress, and made several very sensible suggestions as to the proceedings. He likes the game for the merit there is in it, and works continually for its advancement.

INDIANAPOLIS WHIST CLUB.

The Indianapolis Whist Club is strictly a whist organization. It takes great interest in the game, and numbers many fine players: They play the Cavendish leads, though some prefer the American system. Their regular whist night is Saturday, and if a member absents himself for three successive Saturday nights without sickness or excuse he forfeits his membership.

The members number thirty-one. A record of all play is kept and members are graded according to their percentage of games and points won and lost. Mr. Moores leads in rank the present year, and Dr. Cominger is next, (the Dr. has held the palm for several years past.) Mr. Herron has fourth place. The two latter, with H. Bates, Sr., E. R. Lewis, E. W. Anderson and Geo. N. Catterson, were the congressional delegates, Next to the University Club, Chicago, this club sent the largest representation to the Congress.

In the Milwaukee cyclone, Cominger and Catterson were one of the pairs that "faced the breeze." They knocked just 27 points out of its wind.

THE WAUKESHA CLUB,

Of Waukesha, Wisconsin, is a social organization with fifty-two members. While not a whist club, whist is one of its prominent features, and since the Congress, more attention has been given to it and its scientific features, with the endeavor to have a higher order of play prevail.

Its officers are President, J. M. Braden; Vice Pres-

ident, Col. H. M. Enoe; Secretary, H. E. Blair; Treasurer, B. R. Estburg. Its delegates to the Congress were J. R. Boyd, D. C. James, W. G. Mann.

THE CARTHAGE, (ILL.) WHIST CLUB.

This is exclusively a club of whist players whose aim is to play the best quality of whist. It was organized in 1879. It numbers just one dozen members, and among them are some strong players, while they all play good whist. Edward Cherrill, cashier of the Exchange Bank of Carthage, is its President; John Elder, Treasurer; Stephen H. Ferris, Secretary. Edward Cherrill and Mack Sholl were its delegates to the Congress.

HILLSDALE WHIST CLUB.

The Hillsdale, (Mich.) Whist Club is exclusively a whist club. Its membership is not large, but it has an octette of strong players. The club has a special plan of playing duplicate for single table and for two tables. Mr. S. C. Rowlson, Editor of the Hillsdale *Standard*, has prepared a description of the system for publication. S. C. Rowlson and H. T. Buchanan were its delegates to the Congress.

THE COMMERCIAL CLUB,

Of Dubuque, Iowa, was represented by B. L. Richards. He made an alliance with Everard, the Kalamazoo Duplicate Tray man, to confuse the Milwaukee Cyclone. But, like the Texas rain man's scheme, it failed to materialize, and they weathered the breeze just 26 points to the bad. Everard said a Kalamazoo duplicate cyclone would straighten out all such kinks as these.

XI.

A TRIST APPENDIX.

Additional of Trist and his Quartette, Kennedy, Hare and Bringier—Three Experts who have Visited his Club: W. J. Whaley, of Charleston, S. C., R. A. Gurley, of Denver, and Lieutenant Niles, U. S. A.—The Late Richard A. Proctor's Whist Traits—The Chess Champions, Steinitz and Zukertort's Whist—Steinitz Plays Seven Games of Chess and a Game of Whist, Blindfolded, at One Time.

A MUTUAL friend to whom we sent the advance sheets of the sketch of Mr. Trist, one who has the excellent habit of taking notes on interesting subjects, has kindly sent us an abstract of them, from which we take pleasure in making up an appendix to the Trist sketch in such directions as we have not specially followed. So little, comparatively, has been published of the whist life and whist associations of Mr. Trist that additional matter of this character will find a welcome reception with the whist world.

Our mutual friend thinks that from our estimate of Mr. Trist the inference might be drawn that personally he is somewhat formal or austere. But, as our estimate referred chiefly to his whist characteristics and whist table deportment, we do not think the opinion tenable. Mr. Trist's deportment at the whist table is simply that

which every good player observes, or should observe. Beyond that, in his business life, and with his friends, he is a man among men, and one with whom it is agreeable to associate in any relation.

In talking of his whist, Mr. Trist will not claim for himself or his quartette the position of players of the first rank. Still, when pressed on the subject, he admits that, with the exception, perhaps, of Mr. W. J. Whaley, of Charleston, S. C., now residing in Birmingham, Ala., no visitors at the N. O. Whist Club from this country or Europe have, in his estimation, proved quite equal to the local players in the quality of their play. He ranks among the strongest, Mr. R. A. Gurley, of Denver, Col., and Lieutenant Niles, U. S. A.; also Mr. John Rheinart, of Milwaukee, who, Mr. Trist says, does not appear to follow any conventional system, but plays a very strong common sense game.

He also played a whole afternoon with the late Richard A. Proctor, the celebrated astronomer, a writer on whist of some repute, and a genial gentleman. His play did not come up to Mr. Trist's expectations; he had a singular way of sorting his cards by putting each suit separately between the fingers of his left hand. This habit certainly denoted an unsuspicious disposition, for anyone at the table could count the number of cards in suits as sandwiched between his digits. Mr. Trist has also played whist frequently with the celebrated chess champions, Steinitz and Zukertort, who have at different times visited New Orleans under engagements with the

Chess and Whist Club, and who finished, under the auspices of the club, their great match for the chess championship of the world. They were both devoted to whist, and it was amusing to see with what eagerness they would hasten to the card room for a rubber, whenever their arrangement with the club in regard to chess play permitted them to do so. They appeared not to be well grounded in the rules of play, but soon showed considerable improvement in that respect after practicing with the best players of the club, and, as they had retentive memories, they played fairly well by the time of their departure.

Steinitz on one occasion gave an exhibition of his blindfold play. He varied the usual performance by playing a hand at whist, at intervals of about ten minutes, in order to show that he could turn his attention to other matters without losing the thread of the various combinations of the seven games which he was carrying on simultaneously. Mr. Trist was his partner in this novel exhibition, and testifies to the effect that Steinitz' play of the cards was very accurate, considering the fact that he was carrying in some recess of his mind the pictures of seven chess boards, with the men grouped or scattered thereon in an infinite variety of positions.

Our informant rates Mr. Kennedy among the very first ranks of whist adepts. At the time of his visits to New Orleans, the other two members of the quartette, Messrs. Hare and Bringier, had already left their native State.

Mr. Trist said to him that Hare's style of play is to

a remarkable degree similar to Kennedy's, and that he is specially skilful in the management of trumps, and that Bringier is a more deliberate player than either, is equally strong, and generally more observant of the minor details of the hands.

XII.

"CAVENDISH."

Biography of Henry Jones. "Cavendish"—His College Days—As an M. D.—His Literary Life—His Whist Life—Founding the "Little School"—Dr. Pole and James Clay—As a Writer on Whist—First Edition of "Cavendish"—The Portland Club.

HENRY JONES was born in London, England, on November 2, 1831. At nine years of age he was sent to King's College School, London, England, where as he says of himself, he was more conspicuous for attention to duty in the play ground than in the class room. Partly for the benefit of his health, he was removed to a private school at Brighton. At the age of eighteen he entered as a student at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, England, where he did good work, and was for a year dresser to the distinguished surgeon, Sir William Lawrence, Bart. Passing his examinations immediately after he was of age, he at once commenced his professional career, and remained in active practice in London for about twenty years, when, finding it impossible to carry on both medical and literary engagements, he decided to relinquish the former. Since retiring from his first profession he has devoted himself to literature. He has edited the card and pastime departments of *The Field* newspaper for twenty-eight

HENRY JONES. "CAVENDISH."

years, and the pastime department of *The Queen* newspaper for about twenty-six years, and has contributed numerous articles—principally on games—to various first-class magazines, periodicals, encyclopœdias and dictionaries.

Always fond of games, Mr. Jones began to study whist seriously about the year 1854 or 1855. It was then that the "Little School," immortalised by Dr. Pole, F. R. S., began to hold its meetings, and to make its notes, and to refer doubtful points to James Clay, M. P., the most brilliant player of his day. The rest of the story is well-known. In 1861, Dr. Pole suggested in a magazine that it would be a boon to whist players if hands at whist were published. Mr. Jones sent the notes of the Little School to Dr. Pole, who urged print. In 1862 appeared the first edition of "Cavendish" on whist, the consequence of Dr. Pole's suggestion. Mr. Jones was at the time a member of a small club, the Cavendish Club, where he played whist, and, without giving the matter of pseudonym much thought, he put the name of his club on the title page. Shortly afterwards Mr. Jones became a member of the Portland Club, where he now plays frequently. It is hardly necessary to state that The Portland has been for over a century the acknowledged temple of European whist.

In addition to his fondness for the games themselves, it has been a hobby of Mr. Jones's to make a special study of their laws. When the English code of whist laws was written (in 1863, adopted in 1864), Mr. Jones was not invited to co-operate. But, on subsequent occasions,

(revision of Laws of Piquet, Ecarte, Rubicon, Bezique, Croquet, and Lawn Tennis,) he has been a member of the various committees to whom the production of the codes has been entrusted.

He is the only European who is an honorary member of the American Whist League.

XIII.

WHIST CONTRASTS.

A Suggestion for Teachers of Whist, an Original Paper Prepared for "Whist Sketches"

BY "CAVENDISH."

IT MAY seem presumptuous in me, not having had any experience in oral teaching, to suggest to professional teachers of whist any departure from, or any addition to, their present, and, no doubt, well conducted, methods. Nevertheless, I make bold to venture on a suggestion which appears to me might be adopted, and which, as it kills two birds with one stone, reduces by about one-half, the effort of memory required to master leads, play of second hand, and so forth. My notion, such as it is, may be summed up in two words—WHIST CONTRASTS.

To take some examples. The learner at whist is told to lead ace from five in suit, but the smallest from four, unless ace is accompanied by queen, knave, when he is to lead ace from four in suit. He has two things to remember. If these two things are brought before his eye together and simultaneously, the one helps him to recollect the other. At least, I think so.

Suppose, for instance, a large diagram is prepared, as follows:—

It is pointed out to the pupil that in both cases he leads the ace; that the cards below the queen in the first case are immaterial; and that the card below the knave in the second case is immaterial; but that the number of cards in the suit is not immaterial. He leads the ace in the first case because he has five in suit, and in the second case because he has queen and knave.

Now suppose the teacher takes suits headed by king, queen. I am not going to argue what is the best lead from king, queen, more than four in suit, but I will assume that the teaching is to be queen. Then:—

The pupil is told to lead queen from the first combination; king from the second combination; and his attention is drawn to the difference in number. I have

put the ten in the third place, because then the lead is the same in trumps as in plain suits; but the pupil should be informed that at present, trump leads are not under consideration. He may also be informed that the knave is purposely omitted from the first diagram, as at present only king, queen leads are being explained. Leads from king, queen, knave will require another diagram.

Similarly with suits headed by ace, king, queen. Say,

In the first case queen, then ace, is led; in the second case king, then queen. Attention would be drawn to the difference in number.

Of course, the above is only a rough sketch. It is very likely that I have not chosen the best examples. Perhaps a better first example would be ace and four small, contrasted with ace and three small. Such details must be left to the ingenuity of the individual preceptor. Anyhow, if the pupil is shown that number greatly influences choice of card, he will have learnt a useful lesson, and his eye will have been enlisted as well as his ear.

I will conclude with one example from second hand play. The diagram would be, say :—

A small diamond is led. I need hardly add that with four in suit the lowest is played; with three in suit, the knave. The small cards, if ten is not in sequence with knave in the first case, are immaterial.

The application of the system of contrasts would be troublesome in the case of the third hand, as, in many instances, the third player's strength in trumps is an element. Napoleon's definition of a difficulty was, I believe, that which must be overcome. If my suggestion finds favor with any teachers of whist in America, I may safely leave it to them to apply the above definition.

Before laying down my pen, I should like to impress on whist novices the absolute necessity of mugging up, as school boys call it, the ordinary leads, and play of second and third hands. These once thoroughly known, all that is wanted to make a really good player is practice and perception. If I have, even in a slight degree, helped by the above suggestion to diminish the labor of mugging up, I shall feel amply rewarded.

[NOTE—Mr. Jones, in his letter accompanying the above interesting paper, tells how the idea of "Whist Contrasts" was suggested to him, and, as this also has interest, we take the liberty of printing that part which refers to it:—The idea has been before me for some time, but I have never put it into shape. I knew in learning anatomy how important it is to have the relation of things under the eye. Hence the use of dissecting. This started the notion. I said to myself, tell a man to lead ace from five, smallest from four headed by ace, and as likely as not he will forget it in five minutes. He will come and say, "Which is it, 4 or 5, I am to lead ace from?" But put them together like this,

Lead ace.

Lead lowest.

And it remains fixed on his memory.]

XIV.

JAMES CLAY.

Incidents in his Whist Life—Anecdotes—His Whist Practice and Customs. Prepared for Whist Sketches by a Member of his Family.

THE following interesting reminiscences of the late James Clay, the type of the ideal whist temperament, a man admitted to be the whist authority, and the finest player of his day in England, was kindly prepared for these sketches by a member of Mr. Clay's family, himself a fine player, now in this country:

Mr. James Clay was not only the finest whist player of his day, but a distinguished politician also. He was for thirty years member of Parliament for Hull, and, despite the difference of their politics, the life-long friend of Lord Beaconsfield, whose writings are full of affectionate allusions to his old friend, James Clay.

The value of Mr. Clay's contributions to the progress of whist is indisputable. His treatise on whist is the most logical, succinct and pleasantly written little book, and the whist laws drawn up by a committee of which he was chairman, and which practically owe their existence to his suggestion and advice, were adopted not only in England and the European capitals, but also in this country. In fact, they remain practically undisturbed to this day.

Mr. Clay was the most admirable type of the old-fashioned card player—suave, courteous and imperturbable. An excellent and faithful portrait is made of him (under the name of Mr. Castlemaine) in "Guy Livingstone," which was one of the most popular romances of the day. A remark is put into the mouth of Mr. Castlemaine which was, in fact, actually made by Mr. Clay, and is quoted in England as being the nearest approach to a rebuke to his partner which he was ever known to utter. His partner had made terrible havoc with a hand, owing to an imprudent lead of a singleton, and the sentence is as follows: "It is computed," said Mr. Castlemaine, looking thoughtfully at the ceiling, "that there are upwards of two thousand young Englishmen of good family, and born to brilliant prospects, who are now wandering shoe-less about the Continent, because they would not lead trumps, having five!"

These, of course, were the days of high play in England. The ordinary points were £5 a point, ($25), and a bet of £25 ($125) on the rubber. Mr. Clay, however, used to play the points only, and give his bets away to some old friend, generally Admiral Rous or Lord Henry Bentinck.

It is, of course, a pure matter of speculation as to how far Mr. Clay would have given his adherence to the recent innovations in the game. It is a fact, however, that he admitted his adhesion to the lead from the "intermediate sequence," and even looked with favor on

the lead from the penultimate card, and as these leads were the first step in the direction of the present system of leading, it is quite possible that were he here now, we should find him leading the "card of uniformity" with the same conscientiousness as the most faithful adherent of Mr. Trist.

XV.

AMERICAN LEADS.

The System Adopted by the Congress—Formulated by "Cavendish" in his 19th Edition—The Differences in the "Cavendish" and the "G. W. P." Leads Pointed Out.

THE FIRST AMERICAN WHIST CONGRESS adopted "Cavendish's" leads as the system that would rule in the interplay of League clubs. A brief of the latest formulation by Cavendish is therefore relevant. We give this, and point out the material differences between it and G. W. P.'s leads.

The trend of modern whist in the matter of leads from high card combinations is in the direction of common sense simplification. Under "Appendix C," 19th edition, Cavendish gives the following simple scheme, in which all duality of inference is practically eliminated :

ACE LEADS.

Ace, led originally, shows five or more; or,
Ace, queen, knave, four or more in suit.
The second lead marks the possible combinations.

KING LEADS.

King, led originally, shows exactly four in suit, and

either ace or queen, or both—second lead determining.

QUEEN LEADS.

Queen, led originally, shows either—
Ace, king, queen—more than four in suit;
King, queen—more than four in suit, or,
Queen, knave ten—four or more in suit.

KNAVE LEADS.

Knave, led originally, shows more than four in suit, and marks either—
Ace, king, queen, knave—and one or more, or,
King, queen, knave—and two or more.

THE TEN.

Ten, led originally, marks the single combination—
King, knave, ten—and any one or more—the nine included.

NINE LEADS.

This card is led from two combinations only, and marks exactly four cards—
Ace, queen, ten, nine, or,
Ace, knave, ten, nine.

"G. W. P." in "American Whist Illustrated,"

Differs from the above system of leading in the following particulars:

LEADING ACE—ALSO FROM

Ace, queen, ten, nine.
Ace, knave, ten, nine.

QUEEN FROM

Queen, knave, and two below the seven.
Queen, knave, nine, and two or more.

KNAVE FROM

Knave, ten, nine, and one or more.
Knave, ten, and two small.

THE TEN

Is treated by "G. W. P." in the following manner:
Leading Ten from
Ace, king, queen, knave, ten,—only.
King, queen, knave, ten,—and one or more.
King, knave, ten,—and one or more.

THE NINE

Is treated by "G. W. P." as a high card, and is led from a single combination—

King, knave, nine,—with or without others (excepting ace and queen).

The above are the material differences between the two systems of leading.

WHIST OUTFITS.

PLAYING CARDS.

THE officers of the League at their September sitting acted on the subject of official playing cards for the League clubs, and decided upon those manufactured by the National Card Company, of Indianapolis, on account of their superior quality, desirable form, and reasonable price. The advantages in the regards named were considered to surpass the make of other manufacturers submitted, hence their adoption. In form they are of the same length as the conventional old sized card, but one fourth of an inch narrower, or $2\frac{1}{4}$x$3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and they are much more convenient to hold in full handed games like whist. Their quality is shown by their superior finish and slip. Clubs and players can form a better idea of them by sending to the Company for samples. New dies and special designs have been made for the League Cards, and they are as distinctive as they are handsome.

DUPLICATE TRAYS.

"KALAMAZOO" is the term that single table duplicate whist is drifting into. The Kalamazoo Trays have certainly been boon enough to players to deserve that synonym. Formerly, for duplicate, it consumed as much time to preserve the hands intact as it did to play them. By their use time can be saved over straight-away whist, by dealing the cards prior to a sitting, and hands can be

preserved as played to take the record of play, if desired. The two cited advantages of the trays will be understood by the whist player, and they mean a great deal to him.

CARD COUNTERS.

LACK of conspicuousness is the prevailing defect of most Card Counters. It is necessary with them to ask the opponents score. The Deschapelles counters were invented to obviate all objections of this character. They are entirely simple, and the score of both sides is always visible and conspicuous, and all cause of disturbance to the game, to learn the score, is by their use removed. We have used them since their discovery, and have found them the ideal counters for whist, and games of points similar to whist. Clubs and families who use these counters want no others. If not found at the stationers, apply to Willard & Quincy, the manufacturers, 85 to 91 Essex Street, Boston.

WHIST JOURNAL.

"WHIST," the monthly journal published in Milwaukee, is one of the outgrowths of the Congress, of permanent interest to the whist world. Its half-year of existence demonstrates that there is room for such a journal, and in that time it has established itself. Whist experts and authorities have already used it to a considerable extent as a medium in which to discuss subjects and mooted points pertaining to the game, and it will be more used by them as a means for interchange of views on points on which a difference of opinion exists. Every

one at all interested in the game will find the journal a welcome monthly visitor.

TEXT BOOKS.

ALL text books on whist can be had of Brentano, New York, Chicago, Washington. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. are the publishers of "G. W. P.'s" text book, "American Whist Illustrated," and "Whist in Diagrams."

THE official report of the proceedings of The First American Whist Congress has been published in handsome octavo book form by the officers of The American Whist League. In addition to the valuable matter it contains, it has in whist type diagrams the full play and overplay of a series of hands after the Orndorff system of duplicate, in a contest between eight experts. This in itself is an interesting study for whist players. The book is not on sale in the regular channels, but can be had by mailing $1.00 to Eugene S. Elliot, the President of the League, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

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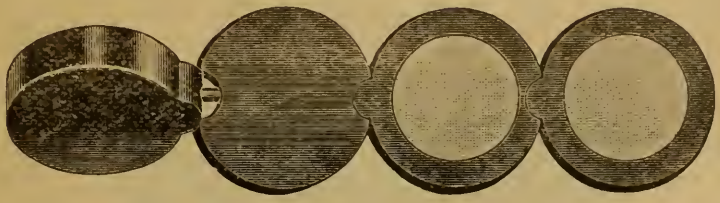

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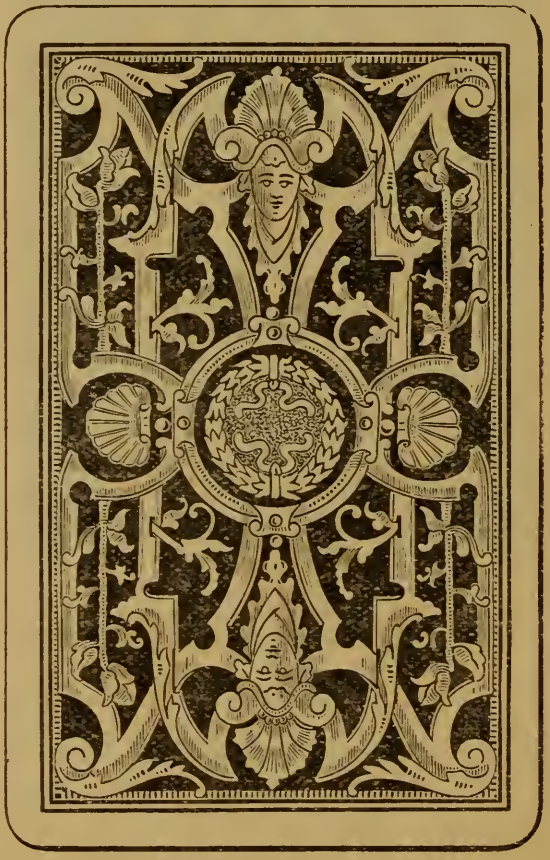

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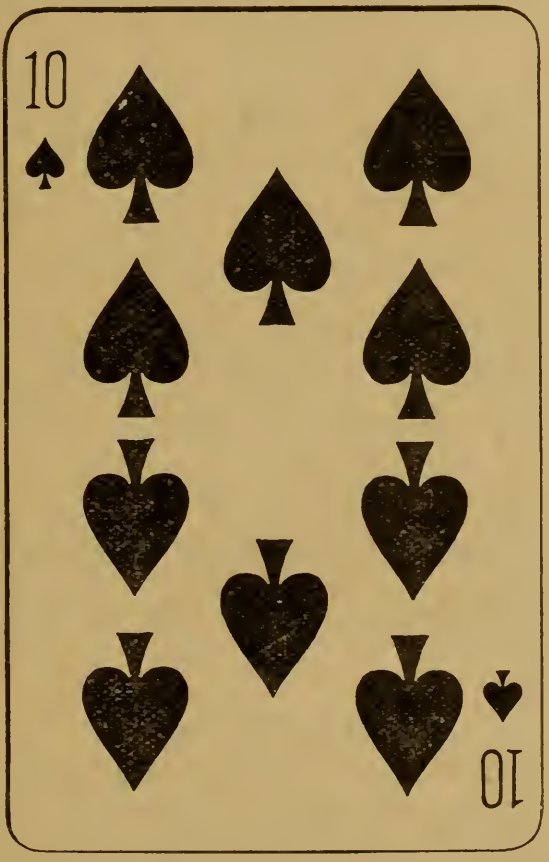

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